





NEBRASKA STATE  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

383.2  
P53  
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v.89 no.1  
Mar.-Nov. 1930

# PHILATELIC WEEK



Adolph Gunesch, Chicago, who has ads in this issue and who bought a large precancel collection mentioned on another page.

**SUPERIOR NEBRASKA**

**U.S.A.**

# COIN BARGAINS

Five different Roman silver coins, all over 1,700 years old and of different rulers .....	\$ 1.50
Five different Roman large bronze coins, very good condition, different rulers .....	2.00
Five different Roman small bronze coins over 1500 years old, different rulers, very good.....	.50
Ancient Macedon, 336-322 B. C. silver tetradrachm or four drachm piece of Alexander the Great, fine .....	3.00
Montenegro, copper para, unc., red .....	.10
France, tiny centime of the republic, uncirculated, red.....	.05
India, nickel anna of Edward VII., scalloped edge, unc.....	.20
Albania, 1926, the beautiful new 5 francs or silver dollar, bust of the President, rev. a yoke of oxen, uncirculated.....	3.00
Albania, 1926, silver 2 francs, nude man sowing, rev. the Roman eagle, unc. ....	1.00
Albania, 1926, silver franc, beautiful head of Pallas with helmet, rev. ship's prow, unc. ....	.50
Albania, 1926, nickel 1 lek, head of Alexander the Great, rev. Greek horseman, unc. ....	.25
Albania, 1926, nickel $\frac{1}{4}$ leku, obv. prowling lion, unc.....	.15
Albania, 1926, nickel $\frac{1}{2}$ lek, Hercules wrestling with lion, unc.....	.20
Albania, 1926, copper 5 qindar, (Lion's head) and 10 qindar (eagle's head) unc., red .....	.17
1904 Lichtenstein, krone, unc. ....	.50
Ten different U. S. Civil War cents and store cards, fine.....	.80
Ten different Hard Times Tokens and Jackson cents, very good to fine .....	1.00
Benin (Africa) bronze bracelet or ring money. so called from being shaped like a bracelet, fine.....	1.00
Great Britain, 1797, Cart-wheel 2 pence, (weight 2 oz.) fine 75c, very good .....	.50
Great Britain, 1797, Cart-wheel penny, unc.....	1.00
1792-94 Coventry $\frac{1}{2}$ penny, Lady Godiva nude on horseback, unc., 75c; very good .....	.35
14-37 A. D., Ancient Rome, silver Tribute penny of Tiberius, mentioned in the Bible, fine.....	3.00
1908 German East Africa, large copper 5 heller (size of a dollar) fine .....	.35
1898 Transvaal, Kruger penny, unc.....	.25
1821 St. Helena, $\frac{1}{2}$ penny, very good .....	.25
1696 England, $\frac{1}{2}$ penny of William III, very good.....	.30
1672 England, farthing of Charles II with bust, very good.....	.20
1660-85 England, set of silver Maundy coins of Charles II, 1, 2, 3, 4 pence, fine .....	1.25
England, 1837-1901, set of silver Maundy coins of Victoria, 1, 2, 3, 4 pence, unc. ....	1.00
Ireland, 1689, gun money, 12 pence of James II, made from old cannon, fine .....	.50
Five different dates of U. S. $\frac{1}{2}$ Cents, very good.....	1.50
10 different dates Large U. S. Cents .....	.75
U. S. gold dollar, large or small size, fine .....	2.75
U. S. gold dollar, holed or mounted, otherwise about fine, each.....	1.50

SEND FOR OUR SELLING LISTS. ABOVE COINS PREPAID.  
Registry or Insurance Extra.

St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co.

408 Olive Street.

St. Louis, Mo.

# 1500 Times the Height of Woolworth's Building

If All the Stamps That We Have Sold Could Be Laid On Top Of Each Other They Would Form a Column 150 Miles High.

## MIXTURES BY WEIGHT

### BELGIUM Parcel Post.

Fine mixture 80c per pound.

### ITALIAN

Mixed, 60c per pound.

### SWEDEN, Unpicked.

Superior mixture \$1.25 per pound.

### BELGIUM, Unpicked.

Fine mixture 50c per pound.

### NORWAY, Fine Mixture.

Recommended, \$1.25 per pound.

### TURKEY, Unpicked.

Large variety, \$3.00 per pound.

## BRITISH MISSION MIXTURE

Mostly British, guaranteed unpicked (200 tons sold to satisfied buyers.) Many useful and occasionally rare stamps are found.

5 pounds \$2.50. 11 pounds \$5.00. Including packing, all postage extra.

### TURKEY MIXTURE

#### Including Pictorials, All Unused

Wonderful Bargains \$1.75 per 1,000  
100 sets, 10 Turkey, unused \$2.40  
100 sets, 20 Turkey, unused \$6.00

### BRITISH COLONIALS

Nice Mixture 50c per 1,000.

Over 100 varieties \$1.25 per 1,000.  
100 Colonials dif. \$11 per 100 packets  
500 Colonials dif. \$24 per 12 packets.

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Including Buildings, Bridges, Palaces, Castles, Churches, Cathedrals, Mosques, G. P. O.'s, Obelisks, Statuary, Temples, Theaters, Museums, Monuments, etc.

50c per 100. \$3.75 per 1,000

### ANIMAL MIXTURE

Including Camels, Horses, Lions, Giraffes, Monkeys, Tigers, Zebras, etc., natural and figurative.

50c per 100. \$3.75 per 1,000

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Including Land and Sea Scapes, Rivers, Mountains, etc.

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### HISTORICAL PACKETS

Including commemorative, Jubilee, Centenary, Peace, Victory, Charity, Celebrations, Exhibitions, etc.

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All stamps showing Animals, Reptiles, Birds, etc., natural and figurative.

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**CAN YOU BEAT IT?**

In order to close out I will sell pre-cancels for only \$2.50 per 1000 just as taken from mission mixtures during the past years; guaranteed unpicked;  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 50 cent denominations; all issues just as they run. I have no catalogue and know nothing of values. Chances for a find are good.

**U. S. Mission Mixture.**

Sold "as is" in 10 lb. lots for 1.00. Postage extra. Find rate to your zone and add to price quoted.

**100 var. U. S. Packet.**

All obsolete adhesive postage only. Damaged stamps in these packets, if any, replaced. Good for approval trade. \$1.02 prepaid. Try one. Hurry because the supply is limited.

**CHAS. E. WILLIAMS**  
**PALMYRA, WISCONSIN**

Will exchange U. S. with collectors or buy U. S.

**WANTED**

All kinds of Tax Paid and Revenue Stamps, Beer, Whisky, Playing Cards, Customs, Inspection, Railway, Newspaper, Parcel Post, Tobacco, Cigar and Cigarette Stamps. Canadian Revenues especially wanted; also from other countries.

Will exchange for other revenues, stamp for stamp.

Iowa Cigarette Stamps exchanged for similar stamps from other states.

**M. SORENSEN**

1353 Burch Ave. West  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

I have the following stamps for sale 23,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent U. S. internal revenue cordials, Wines etc. 1914 1,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cent same issue as above, and 11 3 cent same issue as above, also 2 10 cent U. S. internal revenue, wines 1916, all green. Got these off of old wine bottles.—F. W. Sprung, box 212, Bakersfield, California.

100 percent exchange for your duplicate stamps cataloging 3c each, up. Full details Free.—Haskell, 158W Saint Botolph Street, Boston, Mass.

Send 5c in stamps for premium list, old U. S. bills, and U. S. and foreign coins.—F. J. McDonnell, 1108-6th Ave., Altoona, Pa.

Poster Stamps, Fairs, Events, Expositions, Xmas Seals and Charity Stamps wanted for cash or trade. Correspondence invited.—Dick Green, Castle Gate, Utah.

Will Pay Cash For Pre-cancels or Bureau Prints in any quantity, or you may use your credit in U. S. and foreign from our approval books. Send all the pre-cancels you can get soaked off paper.—Hoover Bros., Room 605, 35 West 33rd St., New York.

Stamps Stamps. India, 100 all different including J. V. K. E. and K. Y. \$2 only; native and convention states, 100 different \$1.50. You get your money's worth. No humbug here. Cash with order.—D. L. Webb, 7 Park Lane, Upper Flat, Calcutta, India, Asia.

Send Me 100 pre-cancels and I will send you 300 varieties of stamps. 1 pound foreign stamp mixture \$2.00. 2 pounds U. S. and Foreign \$1.00.—Mrs. Wm. Hutchins, Fairmount, N. Dak.

Cyprus, Greece, Egypt, Near East Stamps for exchange. I want Basis Gibbons Air Mail and French and British Colonies, Philatelic Papers wanted—Victor Papadopoulos, P. O. Box No. 64, Limassol, Cyprus.

Wanted: Stamps, Coins, Indian Relics, Antiques, cash or exchange. Send list; get mine. Yours for a square deal.—Don. L. Nicholls, 12637 Bentler, Detroit, Mich.

France and Colonies on approval. Hundreds priced at one cent each. Others higher. Reference required.—Walter Danner, Elkhart, Ind.

I Have U. S. Stamps to swap for British Colonials.—Sellmore Co., R. 1, Kimmswick, Mo.

Free! The Bi-Monthly Journal our beautifully illustrated stamp magazine; interesting articles; unsurpassed values.—H. E. Harris & Co., 535 W. Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass.

One Cent and higher priced Approvals 25 different British Colonials given free to approval applicants. 100 French or British Colonials 39c—Cedar Stamp Company, 388 South 17th St. E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Airmail Envelopes, Four attractive designs, 100, 60 cents, 10 samples 10 cents.—Wm. Kingston, 940 So. 21 St., Salem Oregon.

## OUR 1929 PRICE LIST

(No. 10) of U. S. Air Mail covers and First Day U. S. Postage covers is easily our best and most popular list.

This completely revised price guide contains 140 (6x9) pages (cover in two colors) with 347 illustrations, and prices 1,064 separate offerings or 600 more than our big No. 9 list.

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Swappers, Collectors, Outdoor Sportsmen, Sports and Hobbies.

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Pay for Nebraska and Kansas mixed cancelled postage, 10c per 100.

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**WORCESTER 1/2c, 1 1/2c HARDINGS**

and other general precancels to exchange for Comm. Precans. What have you? Cat. basis Good selections of precancels sent on approval. What have you in the line of coins or medals to exchange for precancels, or foreign stamps. I offer 100 different foreign stamps for any silver coin sent me.

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SAY "I SAW IT IN THE WEST."

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Send letter from countries below with return postage on any lot listed here and receive quantity stamps of N. A. listed after each territory. If from U. S. A.—50; U. S. possessions, Canada, Mexico—75; Central or So. Amer.—100; Europe, Africa, Australia, N. Z.—125; Asia—150. Send via air mail and get four times the quantities. Send via air first flight or other special air events and get ten times the quantities. All free.

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SPECIAL NAME PLATES

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I Have Zeppelin Mail Dropped  
Over Europe.

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Low Priced Approvals. 50 different, 5c. Ask for price list.—D. C. Gleim, Box 2, Minneapolis, Kans.

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To send us your want list for JAMEICA, or any other country. We guarantee satisfaction or money refunded. For approvals send two good references. Give us a try.

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Will Exchange first flight airmail covers for large U. S. Cents, Old, Oil Lamp, 1868, perfect condition.—J. D. Tart, 1152 Earl St., St. Paul, Minn.

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Cat. No. 101, Batum	.....	.10
Cat. No. 102, Batum	.....	.12
Cat. No. 103, Batum	.....	.08
Cat. No. 105, Batum	.....	.05
Cat. No. 106, Batum	.....	.03
Cat. No. 197, Batum	.....	.05
Cat. No. 108, Batum	.....	.04
Cat. No. 109, Batum	.....	.08
Cat. No. 147, Batum	.....	.01
Cat. No. 148, Batum	.....	.01
Cat. No. 149, Batum	.....	.01
Cat. No. 150, Batum	.....	.02
Cat. No. 151, Batum	.....	.02
Cat. No. 152, Batum	.....	.02
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CALIFORNIA STAMP CO.

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Stockton,

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Exchange stamps with me on even catalog basis. Send a selection to Jerome Bulte, 2725 Morris Ave., New York City.

Collector's Bargains. British Colonial and Foreign stamps from one-sixth to one-tenth catalogue price. Approvals sent against the usual references.—David S. Berg (J. P. S., P. S. S.) Arlington, Box 7 O. F. S. South Africa.

One Pound Stamps from all the world, very rich lot, containing many British Colonies 1s, 2s, French Col. 2p, 5f, many sets worth \$25; unrivalled lot, only \$10 (ten) postfree.—Vincent, c/o Pointenot, 155 Bathurst St., 155, Sydney, Australia.

Wanted U. S. No. 33 and No. 44 on Covers with Illinois town cancellations. Give price.—A. H. Zimmerman, 6200 N. Claremont Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Absolutely Free. Mint set of Austria No. 482-501 Cat. value 40c, a giant big mail and my bargain lists. Send only 3 2-cent stamps to cover postage.—Richard Golden, W 1926 Haworth St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Will Buy used Civil War patriotic envelopes, stamp collection. Small collection Indian relics for sale. Write Box 253, Ravenna, Ohio.

to start a Stamp Section on the same lines as the two sections now issued and wish to receive subscriptions and advertisements from stamp, coin, money, curio and relic collectors and dealers to meet cost of issuing.—Collectors Directory, Box 99, Sta. A, Hartford, Conn.

Interested in stamps, coins and Indian relics. Mail me full particulars.—W. F. Siegle, 2826 Davenport Ave., Davenport, Iowa.

Something for Nothing? No—but the Society of Philatelic Americans offers you the use of a real live sales department, the use of the largest exchange department in the country, and gives you a live up-to-the-minute official organ. Dues are low—join now!—Wm. Lycett, Secretary, 1223 Washington St., Cape May, N.J.

Mitchell, S. D., Precancel Dues to exchange for those of your home town or So. American.—L. H. Eager, Box 250, Mitchell, So. Dakota.

I Have Zeppelin Mail with German world flight cachet. Write me.—Otto Edenharter, Muenchen-19, 44 Frundsbergstr. Germany.

Kodaks to exchange for scarce stamps or Scandinavian Curios.—Thorson, 306 So. 19th St., Omaha, Neb.

WANTED  
Autographs, old books, documents, newspapers, almanacs, old letters, stamps, stamped envelopes, coins, scrap books.

J. SETTEL

24 Crosby Ave.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

## SELLING MY DUPLICATIONS

Canadian Stamps on Covers, Scott's 1913 from A35 to A42, 1917 N120 to A43-139, from 139 to 148 in pairs or block of 4 on Postal Envelope, brown or red stamp, from 3 cents to 2 cents each. All registered stamps are also in covers; some air. 16 Russian Covers, a fine lot, air mail stamps on covers 710-247-248, 706 in block of 4, 247-326 in block of 4. Other Foreign Covers—one cover with N160, pair, Belgium \$5. Single stamps from 166-178, block of 4 from 179-194, 210 in block of 4, 1420 from 384 to 404 in block of 4 on postal envelopes, 23 postal post cards of Belgian Congo, German East Africa, Belgian occupation ..... \$2.50 7 Italian telegraph post cards, 35 years \$2. 7 postal cards, 3 postal envelopes of Transvaal, 1 registered envelope, blue stamp, about 30 years old, King Edward VII \$3.00 War Covers, Envelopes of Great Britain 7 registered envelopes, black 2 penny stamp, used, army post office, 6 registered envelopes, 2 registered envelopes, 3 penny brown stamp, 2 registered envelopes, 3½ penny blue stamp, used, from the field post office, the lot for ..... \$5.00 12 ½ penny post cards, used, field post \$2.50 7 Octave Covers, without stamp ..... 1.00 8 Field Post Cards ..... 1.00 7 Fine Postal Penny Envelopes, used, field post office ..... 3.00 With 6 penny stamps on covers. 4 Octave Covers with stamps, used, army post office ..... 1.00 1 Octave Cover, received from H. M. Chip, censor 54 ..... 1.00 6 Half Penny Post Cards, used, field post ..... 1.00 7 Letter Cards, used, field and army post office ..... 2.00 8 Penny Post Cards, King George V, 4 penny King Edward VII, used field post ..... 4.00 4 Half Penny with post cards, 3 brown used, army post office ..... 1.50 7 Belgium Postal Post Cards, used by the British field post ..... 3.00 3 French post cards, used, field p. o. ..... 1.00 The Belgian Rare Covers, used by the Belgian government post office in Le Havre, France, rare cancellation; there are only a few of them; one cover with 1 Red Cross stamp, not less than ..... \$5.00 All One Cover, contains the Red Cross stamp from No. 370 to 381, used by the Belgian government post office. I have on hand the only 24 penny post cards of King Edward VII, used by the Belgian post office in Le Havre, France. These postcards were used in England and the reply in Le Havre. They are not torn. I am the only owner of these cards. I have further on hand, the only British Penny Envelope stamped overprinted with Belgian Red Cross Stamps, used by the Belgian army, one British Penny Envelope, used, with French stamp by the Belgian army. What do you wish to have? Try to have something rare in your collection. The Belgian Red Cross Stamp, Scott's No. 383, valued at \$40; used by Belgian post office in Le Havre, France, cat. \$1.20. 125 foreign Covers, all worth \$10, for ..... \$3.00 All Canadian Covers and others will be sent for cash, not less than \$5 orders. All orders will be sent by air mail, FREE. 50 per cent less Scott's price. This does not include the Belgian covers used in the late war.

H. LUST

St. Elmo Hotel, Edmonton, Alta, Canada

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We send on approval. entire collections in albums for your selection, at a flat discount of 70%. Will contain practically everything, Early U. S., If you will select at least Br., cols., etc. Minimum \$2 net; send for one. purchase to be \$10 net. NOTE: Naturally, substantial references are asked. When in Brooklyn visit our store. Glad to see you.

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Mansfield, Ohio

**CASH PAID**

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2718 Woodburn, Cincinnati, Ohio

**AUCTION SPECIALIST  
SINCE 1893**

You buy at your price or sell to highest bidder. Catalogs "FREE".

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Inventor "Approval Cards."  
2147 North 21st St. Philadelphia, Pa.

2 lbs. Mission Stamps. U. S., Foreign \$1.00

This is a pretty good mixture.

**MRS. WM. HUTCHINS**

Fairmount, North Dakota

Wanted: Old red cross seals and old stamps on covers. Stamps and coins bought and sold.—A. Atlas Leve, 333 S. Warren St., Syracuse, N. Y.

Want 40-75 unused foreign stamps, or baggage, scenic stickers. Give fascinating, big MOVIE THEATRE POSTERS or 8x10 Moviestage photograph scenes.—Belmont Shoppe, Downers Grove, Illinois.

**New Cuban Capitol.** Set of 1, 2, 5 and 10 cent stamps, unused, for 80 cents post paid.—Other fine stamps to offer too.—L de Leon, Malecon 52 Altos, Havana, Cuba.

**Fine Clean Stamps** on approval at net prices at a liberal discount from Scott's. A selection will convince you. References or a deposit please.—Fred N. Lemm, 904 Gaultier, St., St. Paul, Minn.

**Japan.** Hotel Stickers of Japan, China, etc., 25 cents dozen, postfree. U. S. Stamps accepted.—Karl Lewis, Box 69, Yokohama, Japan.

**Special!** 50 all different Soviet Russia, eat. \$4.00 for only 20c to approval applicants. Reference required.—Southern Stamp Co., Box 250, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**South Georgia Provincials** 2½ overprinted, 2d purple, blocks and strips, used and unused, genuine and fine condition.—A. E. Jones, Bethcar St., Ebbet Vale, England.

**Have a lot of U. S. Coins to trade for old Postage Stamps.** If interested write.—P. D. Peterson, 411 Putnam St., Eau Claire, Wis.

**Exchange!** Whoever sends me 100-500 postage stamps, receives same number and value in post. stamps of Congo, Belgium, Luxemburg, etc. Reply always. First class ref.—R. Delahaye, Square Albert 8, Nont Saint Amand, Belgium.

**Holland** 50-100-150 differents in exchange for collections of other countries.—Aug. van de Velde, Amsterdam, Zuid Holland, Europe.

**Wanted.** Souvenir Post Cards, U. S. and Foreign, mailed between 1911 and 1920, showing airplanes, airships, balloons, aviators.—Wm. H. Mackie, Coleraine, Minn.

**Automobile for Exchange**—Almost new '29 Model Chevrolet Sedan; exchange for Stamp Collection. Car cannot be told from new. Write—H. W. Blanks, Charlotte, N. C. guarantee goes with car.

**Wanted.** Old U. S. postage or revenue stamps; will give in exchange old books or other articles.—John J. Lecky, 514 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, Iowa.

**30 French Colonials**, 10 cents, with 60% approvals.—H. Ludington, 274 NE 73rd St., Portland, Oregon.

**Our New Fixed Price List No. 23** Will be issued shortly, and will be sent to collectors upon request and receipt of postage.—St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co., 408 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

**Exchange U. S. Only.** What have you? Chas. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis.

## BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

Has a Stamp Shop. A Good One, on Flatbush Ave., cor. Church Ave. A splendid stock to select from. A complete line of accessories. Open daily 9-5.30. Tues. and Sat. evenings until 9 P. M. Bring down your album and fill some of those spaces. We always have from 36,000 to 40,000 var. in stock. Phone Flat. 10295.

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U. S. STAMPS

Why not sell them?

Mail them to

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Try one and enjoy an evening looking them over. Containing no junk, but stamps of value, approval sheet remainders sets, etc. No two packets alike. Order one today and be convinced.

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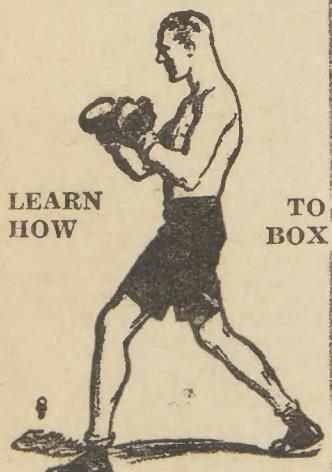
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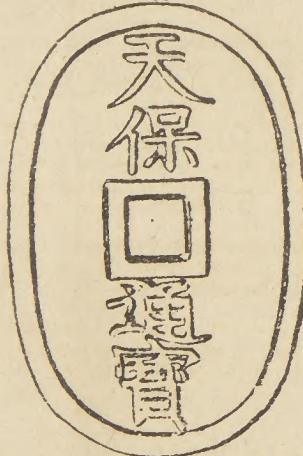
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VOLUME 88

DECEMBER TO MARCH 1930

NUMBER 2

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G. Tucker, N. Y., writes got good results from his ad. Still getting inquiries of ads from year ago.

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K. Crawford, N. D., wish to say West ads certainly get the business. We wouldn't continue in business without it. Hopes keep going another 35 years.

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G. Lindquist, Mass., very well pleased with West, splendid magazine.

Lambert, Ill. Always had good results from my ads in the West.

Lounsberry, Calif. Well pleased with ads in last West. Got many replies.

Received new air stamp of Newton of Wichita, and air mail covers Dr. Davis and others sent some of first flights that always pleased to hear and see. Wish to hear from any and all collectors how they started and finds made, discovered, etc.

## SAINTS AND CHURCHES ON POSTAGE STAMPS.—By T. South Mack.

One constantly hears it said by philatelists that they find it very difficult to interest people who are not already stamp collectors in their hobby, and that these Philistines will frankly admit that being shown a stamp collection bores them. Is this altogether the fault of the non-collector? Can the specialist in Great Britain really expect him to rejoice in a reconstructed plate of penny reds or appreciate the intricacies of the stamps of the present reign?

The average collection, however well written up and displayed from a philatelic point of view, just does not interest the non-collector. This being so, isn't it worth while getting together a small collection that would? There's perhaps a five minute display to be arranged for the end of the next meeting of the stamp club. Why not show something that must interest visitors as well as regular members? An ecclesiastical collection, for example. The word will sound dull and the specialists will dispose themselves for slumber, but you can crowd into your five minutes more interesting details that with their aristocratic Colonials they have been able to discover in half an hour.

You would begin with one of the stamps of the Roman States with the papal tiara and the keys of St. Peter. As these used only the one central design, one specimen will be enough. Then might come the stamps issued by Italy in connection with ecclesiastical affairs. As one might expect, she heads the list as far as numbers are concerned. In 1912 we have two handsome stamps commemorating the re-erection of the Campanile of St. Mark's at Venice, and in 1923 four large stamps for the tercentenary of the congregation "De Propaganda Fide," showing Our Lord preaching the gospel. The year 1924 was "Holy Year" for all Catholics, and was commemorated by an issue showing three of the principal churches in Rome, and St. Peter's, and representations of the Pope opening and shutting the Holy Door. In 1926 came the seventh centenary of St. Francis of Assisi and five stamps showing scenes from his life were issued.

This last year Italy gave us also stamps to commemorate the founding of the monastery of Monte Cassina and the stamps of the Vatican City have received so much publicity that they need only be mentioned here. The Pope, this time in company with King Alfonso, also appears on the very handsome "Catacombs" issue of Spain in 1928.

Our Lady is depicted on the stamps of Hungary in 1921 and again in 1926, and a very curious reproduction of her from a medieval image on the stamps of Saar in 1923. The only country in the world to put the service of the church on a stamp is, curiously enough Mexico, where in recent years religious persecution has been taking place. In 1910 a set commemorating the independence of Mexico was issued, and on the one peso value "The Mass on the Mount of Crosses" was displayed.

Then can follow quite a number of saints of which the most interesting issue belongs to St. Antony of Padua, that whole-hearted ascetic of the Franciscan Order. This consisted of four designs, St. Antony's vision, St. Antony preaching to the fishes, St. Antony ascending into Heaven and a portrait of the saint from a picture in the Academy of Fine Arts in Paris, and was issued by Portugal in 1895, complete with a minute prayer in Latin printed in about six lines on the back of each stamp.

St. George and the Dragon is depicted on the stamps of Crete for 1900, the design being almost exactly that on our lost gold currency. Quite near as far as geography is concerned is the "Discovery of the body of St. Barnabas"

on the stamps of Cyprus in 1928. A little nearer home we have St. Paul and St. Publius, the first Bishop of Malta, on the stamps of that island, and last year we have St. Joan of Arc on the 50c stamp of France, which, because Joan's color was blue, was allowed to break every canon of the Postal Congress Union.

Turning to ecclesiastical architecture, we have plenty to choose from. Belgium has given us the cathedrals of Mons, Tournai, Malines, Ghent and St. Gudule in Brussels, and in order to assist the Orval Abbey Restoration Fund issued a very fine set in 1928, of which the 5c is interesting, as showing the influence of poster art in stamp designing. The same set has a Cistercian monk stone carving.

Bulgaria shows St. Johanne's Monastery, the Shipka Pass Monastery, the Rilo Monastery and Sofia Cathedral.

Jamaica gives us the Cathedral, Spanish Town, Czech-Slovakia, a very fine stamp of the Cathedral at Brunn, Cyprus, the church of St. Nicholas at Famagusta, and also what is in the opinion of several people I have met the most beautiful stamp yet printed, showing the cloister of the Abbey of Bella Paise.

These few notes, which are not exhaustive, may help you to put up quite an attractive, end-of-the-meeting display. Nearly all these stamps can be picked up in the club packet for very little indeed.—Bazar.

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#### THOSE POTENTIAL COLLECTORS.

Has your friend a hobby? It is surprising how many people have no hobbies. Because of this they have nothing definite to occupy their spare time, consequently their lives are half empty—some people have a lot of time to spare. We have just begun a new year, and although that is no particular reason, we want our readers to look upon the occasion as an opportunity to spread the cult of stamp collecting. Most of you have been stamp collectors, or philatelists, for some considerable time, and the fascination of stamp collecting, and its value as a lucrative hobby, pastime or occupation—as you will—is well known to you. It is exceedingly likely you have friends to whom stamp collecting is at present something in the nature of an enigma, and to whom a real and sensible hobby is unknown. In this case you have an excellent opportunity to increase the number of stamp collectors. You know as well as anybody the many advantages philately would derive from an increased following. Not only that, you too would benefit if you made your friends stamp collectors. Some people are content to leave others alone; nobody introduced the hobby to them so they pooh pooh the idea of suggesting it to a non-collector. They behave like this not because they don't like to interfere with other people, or because they won't be bothered, but because the job is usually not an easy one. It is not. We know that well enough from experience, but we do earnestly ask you to persevere as we have done for many years, and we do not doubt the result. Philately is still the world's finest and most profitable hobby, still the King of Hobbies and the Hobby of Kings, its qualities and the advantages of following it need no recounting here, and we trust that all our readers will think awhile over these lines and that those who get the chance to bring new collectors into the fold will make the best of it.—West-End Philatelist.

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Why not get among the many advertisers for next issue. Wish to get it out sooner and make it a better number.

**A NEW VARIETY OF COLLECTING—By Jack Backora Jr.**

At some time or other in the stamp game there comes to every stamp-lover a period of depression when on the moment's notice he is willing to quit, to throw it all over and never look at a stamp again. It may be that his collection has reached such a point that his finances cannot stand the adding of new specimens. Or perhaps there is such a multitude of the items he needs that the very numbers frighten him. Whatever it may be, then is the time to switch off to something new and rejuvenate his collecting fervor.

Early last summer I was in a predicament like this. I had lost all interest in my U. S. collection and I could not see any in the other recognized lines. But one day in looking through a mass of duplicates, I came across a copy of Newfoundland No. 91, listed at a dollar in the catalogue. It was then that I decided to make a collection of stamps similar to this, that is, ones rated at one dollar or better in the catalogue.

The result of three month's work is seen today in the little 4x6 notebook in which I have mounted the stamps. Only one stamp is placed on each page. Under each is placed catalogue number and current price. This in turn is followed by a short write-up of the stamp, containing something of its history, the reason for its issuance and anything else of interest. The biggest part of the fun is yet to come—that of comparing the old prices with those of the new catalogue.

This type of collection is impressive, I believe, in soliciting new members for Philately. There are any numbers of appeals that it can make. In the first place, it brings out the romance of the stamps. Secondly, it lays stress on the practical subjects of history and geography. And last, perhaps most important, it makes a direct monetary appeal to the novitiate.—Gossip.

**THE FIRST ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMP**

An historic postage stamp, apparently without a rival, was recently sold in the London auction rooms for £50, or about \$250. Its special claim to distinction lies in the fact that it was the first one-penny black of Great Britain, 1840, and therefore the first adhesive stamp in the world to pass through the post.

It appears that a British Treasury minute of April 22, 1840, appointed May 6 of that year as the date for the introduction of postage stamps; that on April 25 all postmasters and subpostmasters were advised of the forthcoming issue; that almost immediately afterward the dispatch of supplies to provincial post offices was begun.

A supply of the epoch-making stamps was received at the post office at Bath about April 30. Apparently a local official cut the very first stamp from the corner of a sheet with the aid of a pair of scissors and affixed it to a letter addressed to an unknown person residing in Peckham, a London suburb.

A fragment only of the letter remains with the stamp still sticking to it, but it is sufficient to show the Bath postmark of May 2, 1840, and a red "Paid" cancellation mark of May 4 partly over the stamp itself, indicating that the stamp was not cancelled until it reached London.

Scandinavian stamps are among some of the most interesting of all issues of the world. As a whole, they are low in price, few rarities being found in any of the countries so long as one doesn't stray far from catalogue listings. However, at the same time they lend themselves so readily to specializing that a wonderfully interesting collection can be made of most any of the countries in this group.—Stamp News.

**WHY I COLLECT STAMPS—By Katherine E. Spring.**

(Note:—This essay was written by a girl 15 years old in a contest held by the recently organized Shelton Philatelic Association, a club organized in the Lincoln School of Shelton, Wash. This essay won the first prize, a fine album.)

When one enters the "Kingdom of Stamps" he is entering a land of education and romance. He learns of animals, buildings, and scenes, of which he had never before heard. Old stories and history are brought to his mind when he is reviewing his collection.

Thus it is that I like to spend my quiet evenings. When I once enter my Kingdom, I am lost to this mortal earth. Before me I see old myths and legends being enacted, and History, himself, marching before my dazzled eyes. The scene changes, and I find myself being transported into a foreign country, full of strange animals, plants and pictures. Again I am moved. This time to the land of the gods. Here it is that I have pleasant talks with my favorite deity.

It may be that I am in some way disturbed. Instantly my visions vanish and I am again in the land of the living. I get to work sorting my stamps until I find another that sets me to dreaming once more. Is it any wonder that I have chosen stamp collecting for my "King of Hobbies," when I find so much diversion and romance among the leaves of my album?—Gossip.

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William P. Brown, who died in December, prided himself for years that he was the veteran stamp dealer of the New York stamp trade, and there was no one to dispute his claim. The editor bought his first stamps from him in 1879, and in recent years has called upon him whenever on Nassau St. making calls. Mr. Brown possessed a very kindly nature and his benevolences were numerous. In probating his will we note that he left a 240-acre farm to be used as an outing place for New York's poor, and a house and grounds to be used as another outing place for those connected with the Five Points Mission in Manhattan. The estate was valued at more than \$20,000.—Mekeels.

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Stamp Collecting says: Buy old stamps, they are the best investment. To prove this one need only compare the present day catalogue prices with those of 25 to 30 years ago, to show the enormous rises in value of nearly all stamps of that period. Many stamps that were common in those days and could be bought wholesale at a shilling or so per hundred are now worth more than the same number of shillings each, or over one hundred times as much. Just think what they will be listed at in say another twenty-five years time.

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Triangular stamps seem to be coming from all directions. Their popularity with the younger set cannot be estimated until one operates a store and listens to the clamour when the stock of Nyassa dues is exhausted. Quatemaia recently put out a set of three cushion officials which may or may not be good, as time passes. Uruguay comes through with some triangles, and now we see a picture of a Paraguay airmail with three sides.—American Philatelist.

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A large burial ground believed to contain the skeletons of members of the old Arikara Indian tribes, has been found at Maskell, Neb. These were the first to cultivate maize or Indian corn, and inhabited this region long before the Sioux. The burial spot on a hill top not far from the Missouri river, has been only partially excavated. Pottery and bits of charcoal were found with some of the bones.

## MIXTURES

Have you ever given a thought to mixtures? You would be surprised at the host of fine stamps one gets for the money. Of course you can't expect Mauritius Post Offices in a "5 lbs. for a dollar" mission mixture, but you can expect, and probably will get your share of philatelic excitement, in coming across a rare perforation or an odd shade. For collectors of cancellations, the cheap mixture is a gold mine of material. Paquebots, odd cancels, precancels, colored cancels, registered mail cancels, killers, etc. are all to be found in the cheapest of mixtures. One should get his money's worth in thrills alone, browsing among thousands of stamps, with the hope of unearthing a sleeper here and there. Taking 5,000 stamps to the off paper pound, a good afternoon's work would be the assorting of a few ounces. It is not hard at all, after one has found the knack. A dull afternoon may easily be brightened up by assorting stamps. I am forever getting a kick over mixtures. You don't know what you may turn up next, and the element of doubt, makes the pastime quite interesting. But there are more material advantages, than as a rainy day pastime. Sorting mixtures for re-sale is becoming a profitable and pleasant occupation and many collectors are taking advantage of this opportunity to enrich their collection and purses. Assorting by countries, hinge mounting, packet making, cataloguing, pricing, etc., all cost the retailer much money and labor. The mixture dealer has none of these expenses, and you get the savings.—Linns.

## HONORING THE VIKINGS—ICELAND'S 1,000 YEARS OF PARLIAMENT

A picturesque issue of stamps has been issued by Iceland to commemorate the millenary of the "Icelandic Althing" the historic old Parliament of the country. These stamps have been on sale in place of the regular issue since the beginning of the year, but will be withdrawn on February 15 until next June, when the millenary is to be celebrated throughout Iceland by a great national festival.

There are sixteen stamps in the issue, each bearing a different vignette of some event from Icelandic history or illustrating customs of the country. Their values are as follows: 3 aurar, violet, Parliament House at Reykjavik; 5a, dark blue, Viking galley in a storm; 7a, deep green, winter camp of early Germanic colonists; 10 a, red-lilac, a Viking's funeral; 12a, deep blue, naming the land with Viking ritual; 20 aurar, red, the dash for Thing; 25a, brown, wood gatherers; 30a, dark green, view of Thingvallir and Thingvalla Lake; 35a, deep blue, Icelandic woman in national costume; 40a, green, red and blue, the Danish flag; 50a, red-brown, the first Althing; 1 krona, olive-green, map of Iceland; 2 kronur, emerald-green, winter farm scene; 5 kr., dark yellow, woman at spinning wheel; 10 kr., claret, votive offering to Thor; 10 aur, air mail stamp, triangular, blue, Icelandic falcon and aeroplane.

The issue has been printed in Vienna, and limited to 325,000 copies up to 15 aurar, 125,000 up to 40, and 25,000 up to 10 kr. See ad Iceland dealer.

## ICELAND

Airmail stamps in triangular form will be issued to celebrate the Icelandic parliament, the oldest parliament in the world. First was in 930—yes, sir, one thousand years ago. Special stamps will also be issued for ordinary mail and official service.—Roesler News.

The "WEST" is hunting all over the world for "Little Collectors." She will make them grow "Big and Strong."—Sparks.

**NOVEL COLLECTIONS**

Would you like to make a collection as a side line, or perhaps as your main collection, that is different from most collections? Here are a list of collections that should be different and interesting.

Birds—Stamps showing birds. You might try to obtain as many varieties as possible. The swans of Western Australia and the eagles of Mexico are examples.

Charity—Stamps from which part of the proceeds went for charity.

Coats of Arms—You will find examples among the stamps of Australia and Leichtenstein.

Animals—A few stamps from Nyassa will make a good start for this collection. You can try to get as many stamps showing different animals as possible, or try to get as many stamps as possible showing the same family or variety of animals.

Famous Women—These may be a little hard to find. Martha Washington on U. S. stamps and some Newfoundland stamps are examples.

Heroes—This collection should show who are heroes in your opinion.

Presidents—The U. S. stamps will make a collection of this kind by themselves.

Rulers—These can be found on stamps from many countries.

Kings—These are easy to find.

Queens—Canada and Newfoundland each have stamps showing queens.

Ships—Many can be found on U. S. stamps. These stamps can be arranged so as to show the development of the ship.

Airplanes—U. S. and many other stamps show airplanes.

Statesmen, Generals, Explorers, etc.—Collections can be made showing any one of these.

Buildings—Nicaragua and Germany will give a start along this line.

All Stamps Showing One Man. For example, all the U. S. showing Lincoln or Washington.

Scenery—Bosnia has some good stamps showing scenery to start with.

Historical—Stamps showing historical scenes. The U. S. commemoratives contain some of this class.

This is not a complete list, but just a few suggestions. Try to arrange your collection so that it will be as interesting as possible.—Lee' Stamp News.

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**ADVERTISING**

We were in conversation the other day with a European dealer who spends \$24,000 annually for advertising (which beats by \$20,000 the advertising bill of the biggest dealer in the U. S.) We sometimes think that American dealers don't want to be big. The concern that we speak about employs eighty clerks in the general business and forty in the wholesale. That is about the total of all the clerks employed in the U. S. We dread to think what would happen if a really clever ad man ever hitched up with a smart stamp dealer.—Roessler News.

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Stamp collecting is a good investment. In Europe while the government bonds and national currency depreciated after the world war, a number of people lived on proceeds realized from the sale of their collections.

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"Know how" is success, its an irresistible force, you find it in the "West."—Sparks.

### HOW DID YOU BEGIN COLLECTING?

Most collectors, we should say, have probably been led to their hobby by some vivid experience. It may have been at a fair or exhibition, where the instant appeal of some artist's work broke down all prejudices. Perhaps it was a chance visit to a sale room that provided the first thrill—and certainly the excitement of the chase finds its keenest expression when some unmatched treasure comes under the auctioneer's fateful hammer.

"The West" believes that the experiences which led its readers to take up what, to most, must seem a strange obsession, are worth recording. The more readily it can be seen how converts to collecting are made the easier will newcomers to the ranks be induced to join. It has therefore decided to ask readers for their personal experiences. To every reader who sends on a postcard, or in a short letter, the reasons why he took up collecting, "The West" will award a prize of a famous coin book on prices if the entry is deemed worthy of publication.

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### THE PAST YEAR IN THE STAMP WORLD.

Stamps and all other philatelic items have been as popular as ever during the past year. But there is one thing we have noted by the inquiries, and that is that philatelists are taking more interest than ever in postmarks and entires. The day of collecting mint copies alone seems on the wane. Especially have we noticed this with regard to the stamps of Great Britain. For good and fine entires of United States, British Colonies and Great Britain there is a world-wide demand.

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### WHICH CLASS IS YOURS?

Roessler says: Through the soft breezes of the tropics with the Colonel and his lady or through the icy gales of snow near the Pole with Wilkins, on history-in-the-making trips—the air cover collector has in his album valuable evidence. To the non-collector the events are just a memory. You? Are you a cover collector of just a spectator on the side-lines?

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### "STAMPS" GOING BIG

Kent B. Stiles masterpiece "Stamps" published by Harper & Bros., needs no boost from us as readers may remember when it came out a couple of months ago we praised it about as much as any book could be—well, it is now in its second printing.

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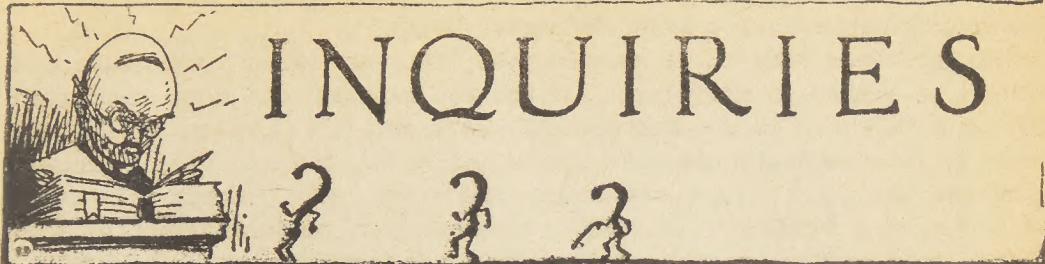
### MENIN GATE STAMP.

The design of one of the new Belgian Christmas Charity stamps, to be issued in December, shows the Menin Gate memorial and the ramparts of Ypres.

Charlie Severn has gone!. We have profited for years by his good deeds for philately and his sound ethics for promoting its welfare. We first met him more than twenty-five years ago at a stamp convention. He was easy to meet. He was just the kind of a fellow who was a stranger for a moment and a friend in five minutes and always. While we will miss him, his good deeds will resound to the benefit of philately for years to come. Philately is the better for his having lived to illumine it.—Gossip.

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Advertisers announce results from the "WEST" equal all else added together.—Sparks.



It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over a issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

L. L. Bertram, Bradford, Ohio: None of the coins mentioned in your letter are worth above face value, and the old paper money is of the common kind. A collector of this might pay you 25 to 50 cents apiece for these notes. M. S.

May Hunter, Guthrie Center, Iowa: The coin you sent rubbing of is a Spanish silver dollar or 8 real piece, minted at Mexico City, but you have put the wrong date on the rubbing. The date is evidently 1809. In 1809 no mint master was able to strike a coin like this. I gain from the rubbing that the coin is holed so it is not worth anything to a collector. The Spanish dollar ruled the world, so to say; it was legal money in the U. S. until 1858, and consequently it is comparatively easy to get good specimens of the different mintings of this dollar. I must say that you sent a fine rubbing, better than I usually get them. M. S.

No name, Clinton, Mo.: Your coin is also a Spanish silver dollar. See reply above. M. S.

Mrs. Henry J. Hoffman, Sullivan, Wis.: None of the coins you mention command a premium, as far as I know. Of course, a Trade Dollar in fine condition is worth more than face value, but how much more depends upon an eventual buyer. M. S.

J. H. Sudbeck, St. Louis, Mo.: The German 50 thousand mark stamp is not scarce and will bring only a few cents. I have several where the value runs into millions, but they are not worth anything only as curios. The coins are so defectively described and the rubbing so poor, that it is impossible for me to gain any idea what they are or their possible value. I suggest that you send them to me so I may examine them. If you do, send return postage with them. M. S.

A. W. Long, Maryville, Mo.: Your lamp is evidently a masterpiece of old are, and it is only too bad that I am no expert in this line to aid you. You ask in your letter, if I have ever seen one. No, I never have, but not long ago somebody in Indiana sent me a drawing and description of a similar lamp. M. S.

Do you know where I can get agates, amazon stone and rose quartz or do you know where I could get fine colored stones for pillars and for fire places. Thanks. R. G. Dawson, Franksville, Wis.

O. H. Patterson, Vici, Okla.: The Peace Medal found by your son-in-law near an old battle ground is likely of the usual kind. As you don't describe it in detail I can't say what it might be worth. A Peace Medal is always a desirable piece, and well worth keeping if in nice condition. Usually the Peace

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

Medals were struck in silver, about the size of a silver dollar. See answer to a similar question in the preceding number of "West." M. S.

No name and address: I received your letter but without your name and address, so I have to reply here. Of the two rubbings one is of an English half penny token, 1812. At that period England was full of tokens of all kinds, issued by merchants and different institutions, and as there is nothing unusual about your token, it has no great value—just a few cents, perhaps. The other rubbing is of a Swedish  $\frac{1}{4}$  ore, 1635. Whenever you see three crowns in that position on a coin you may know then that it is from Sweden. M. S.

Marcus Hull, Lansing, Mich.: Yes, genuine "Pine Tree Shillings" may still be obtained from reliable dealers. M. S.

W. T. McNeil, Attica, Ind.: I very much regret to say that it is quite impossible to furnish the desired address of the American millionaire who is buying antiques. M. S.

Every postage stamp has a little story behind it. Approximately four thousand postage stamps, which are called commemoratives, particularly picture some great historic event. Commemorative postage stamps have been issued by approximately a hundred and forty nations. There are over four hundred events recorded by this vast array, covering probably more than a thousand years in subject matter, dating back as far as A. D. 925. While postage stamps may outline for us, pictorially, the story of mankind, these special commemorative stamps definitely record certain specific events.

A French philatelic magazine is authority for the statement we now have 56,874 varieties of postage stamps. Nicaragua has issued more varieties than any other nation of the world, with 1,183 different stamps. The opposite record is held by King Edward VII Land, Antarctic region, which issued a single stamp in 1908 commemorating a British exploring expedition in the Antarctic. Europe possesses 17,089 different stamps; America, 13,519; Africa, 12,147; Asia, 10,488 and Oceania, 3,631.

### NAVAL CONFERENCE POSTMARK

A registered letter posted at the special post office attached to the Naval Conference in London has been shown us by Mr. Denton Hepworth. The three Postal Union commemorative stamps with which it is franked are cancelled with a small single line circular postmark lettered "London Naval Conference" round its circumference.—Stamp Collecting.

Do you know that you can help both your collector neighbor and us by asking him to subscribe for the West and if he becomes a regular reader he will thank you—so will we. Get two, get your own free.

By dallying, delaying and putting off many a stamp does not get into your collection or it does not get in as cheaply as it would if you would follow the rule—Buy Now.

The state of New York has so much large business in the stock markets that they have issued a \$1,000.00 tax stamp. Formerly the \$100 stamp was the highest.—Mekeel.

Let our subscribers be your customers. Advertise in our pages.

## NEBRASKA NOTES—By S. P. Hughes.

The Omaha World-Herald recently reprinted a news item from some eastern paper telling of a wokman finding an old bank token of 1837. The token was illustrated and considerable noise was made over the find as it upset some political data concerning the origin of the Democrat donkey. This is not given as really a news item, but rather to illustrate the ignorance of the rank and file of newspaper men regarding something of which they know nothing. More newspaper space and photos were used over this 25c Jackson token than would have been given to some real news item.

The I. A. Maust, Falls City, coin collection has recently been sold for a price far in excess of its appraised value. Mr. Maust was for many years a well known collector of Falls City, Neb., and was a frequent caller at the writer's home. For a number of years Mr. Maust specialized in U. S. gold and at his death it was found that the face value of the U. S. coins alone was in excess of \$4,000. Mr. Maust collected only U. S. coins and when the collection was sold it illustrated the stability of U. S. issues and their ever increasing value.

When precancels first came out, 35 years or so ago, the writer made quite a collection, just as a side issue, and after all these years has found to his sorrow that a P. C. has no value at all and comparatively speaking is not only a waste of time, but a waste of good money.

It was with considerable regret that he learned that 60,000 varieties had a value of \$300.00 when the used wholesale value of the stamps was several times this amount. Just as an illustration of how valuable a stamp may be in the P. C. field, the writer need only mention one instance. A lone town here in Nebraska that uses lots of P. C. stamps accidentally overprinted an old sheet of obsolete stamps, 100 in all. A local collector discovered them and by mailing a box out of town secured forty-two of the stamps, thinking he had made a find. He found to his sorrow that even though the catalogues claimed they were rare, they had no value. Figure it out yourself, gentle reader. Here is an issue of U. S. stamps, precancelled in the regular way, with an issue of only 100 stamps and only forty-two of those available for the whole world, yet they had a value less than 5c each.

The collector who wastes any time or money on P. C. is only preparing himself for a sad disappointment if he ever wishes to sell. The writer, like Mr. Brodstone has been collecting nearly fifty years and half a century of experience must necessarily have taught some lessons in the collecting game. If any would-be P. C. collectors happen to read these notes, the writer's advice is to leave them severely alone, they have no future and less value. If you want something cheap try 3c green 1870 to 82, or any other cheap U. S. Even freak cancellations offer a prolific field as one never runs out and if you ever get to the point where it is necessary to sell, you have a market; not so with precancels.

The last issue of Own magazine has several pages of photos and data relative to the early settlement and town of Nebraska City. The author, Mr. Abbott, is well posted on historical matters as relating to the early settlement of Nebraska and handles his subject in an excellent manner. Mr. John E. Gaskill of Nebraska City is given much credit for much of the historical data given by Mr. Abbott. If any readers of this paper are ever near Nebraska City they will be well repaid by a call on Mr. Gaskill. His store is in actual reality an historical museum, replete with objects that are priceless. The early photographs alone represent a lifetime work, and so far as the writer knows, is the most complete collection in the state.

**AERO-PHILATEL TODAY—By Brigadier-General R. Ridgway, C. B.**

There is no doubt that aero-philately has come to stay. In common with all youngsters it has had its share of childish diseases, but is developing a sturdy growth. In its infancy, which can be dated contemporaneously with the enthusiasm of French collectors for the air borne records of the war of 1870, the hobby was exclusively for those, who to use an apt term coined for them, could be described as aerosomists, that is to say, collectors of souvenirs of mails carried by air. As long as only such records persisted, the cult may be said to have been confined to this class of collector, whose pioneer work has undoubtedly been of great value. It is only by their efforts that valuable and historic records of the initial efforts in aviation, many of them of great value at this date, have been unearthed and classified. In effect, the hobby was limited to a very small circle, amateur and dealer alike, with an occasional article published in a philatelic journal which was "caviare to the general."

With the introduction, however, of official stamps and the rapid progress of aviation leading to almost numberless activities throughout the world, the scene changed and the infant developed. But with this development the original aerosomist has been gradually converted into the modern aero-philatelist, with a marked inclination to the collection of either mint official stamps, or first flight covers franked with these, or both. This course has practically been forced on the collector due to the enormous field which is now covered by air services. Additionally to the aero-philatelist, who in collecting still maintains keen interest in the progress of air transport, the regular philatelist has also recently appeared in the movement. Discarding a general collection, or even a specialized collection, interest is being concentrated on air stamp issues by this convert mainly for two reasons. The first is that, since the total issues of such stamps up-to-date number under a thousand, there is an assurance of compiling a very presentable collection; and the second that, financially speaking, there is a better investment for the money. The records of auctions and sales held recently in both this country and America show that there is considerable justification for such an assumption.

The resultant of these modern developments has been that many philatelic journals in all countries are devoting considerable space in their columns to air matter, and where, previously, a few of the smaller dealers took any interest, the bigger firms are now not only treating the subject on a business footing, but are commencing the compilation of various catalogues.

A further step forward is the fact that no philatelic exhibition of today is considered complete without its classes for air mails. Some exhibitions indeed are in prospect entirely devoted to the hobby.

It was only natural that, with the growth of the cult, societies and clubs should be formed for the purpose of bringing enthusiasts together, disseminating information, and collecting records. Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, America, India and England have their separate organizations, in some cases more than one, the total number of members attaining a large figure. The home organization was founded as the Aero-Philatelic Club of London in 1923, and is confined to amateur collectors throughout the British Empire. The membership has included collectors so far distant as Canada, New Zealand, India, Persia and South Africa, and a regular link is maintained by the publication of a monthly journal which endeavors to give the latest information in aero-philatelic circles. All this propaganda is no doubt switching the limelight on to aero-philately and helping to assure its future.—*Philatelic Magazine*.

**THE RAREST U. S. ENVELOPE STAMP.—By R. J. A. Widmar.**

The rarest U. S. centennial 3-cent envelope (until others of that issue materialize) is the 3-cent red, Hartford die centennial envelope stamp with the words "U. S. Mail" overprinted in small black capital letters above the railroad train, now in the collection of R. J. A. Widmar, Breckenridge, Colorado.

Since early in 1876 this stamp, with many U. S. Department stamps, has been in the collection without receiving any special attention. Recently being curious as to why the envelope was overprinted "U. S. Mail," the owner wrote to Dr. H. A. Davis secretary of the American Philatelic Association at Denver, Colorado, asking him if there was any known reason for the over-print. He replied in part: "Yours of 25th received enclosing the Hartford die centennial envelope. As previously advised, I have never heard of this overprint." He gave the name of Mr. J. M. Bartells of New York City as being the greatest authority on envelopes.

The stamp was sent to Mr. Bartells for his inspection and was accompanied by the owner's affidavit as to how, where and when it came into his possession. Mr. Bartells wrote in part: "We have received your favor, enclosing the red centennial envelope cover printed in small black caps 'U. S. Mail' above the R. R. train. In reply to your inquiry I can only say that this envelope is absolutely unknown to Philately and as far as I know has never been mentioned or recorded anywhere. The reason and history of the overprint is unknown and I am therefore unable to give any further information."

Referring the matter of the overprint to the Third Assistant Postmaster General (Dept' of Stamps, Washington, D. C.) he wrote: "The Department has no record of the centennial envelopes having been overprinted in the manner stated and can furnish no information as to where or when the overprinting was done. This is the first time the matter has been brought to the attention of this office."

"With reference to your further inquiry as to whether there would be any objection to photographing the stamp for the purpose of illustrating a news item, you are advised that postage stamps are classed as fiscal issues of the government, the reproduction of which for any purpose whatever is positively prohibited by law."

An examination of the cut square centennial envelope stamp shows that the over-print was carefully made and was placed in a previously determined position—it has all the appearance of being the work of a government contractor's office. In those days envelopes and post cards for the government were printed by contract for the government, not printed by the government.

There certainly were more of those Hartford (red) die envelopes overprinted at that time, as even if it had been a "special issue" there must have been more of them printed or the one in question would not have been used for ordinary business correspondence—post marked "Hartford, Conn., " and hand cancelled before being mailed to New York City. Therefore collectors of envelopes are advised to look over their Hartford die centennial envelopes.

**JULIUS CÆSAR ON A STAMP**

The new stamps of Italy, just issued, are interesting, as they link the history of ancient Rome with that of modern Italy. The designs include busts of Julius Caesar and the Emperor Augustus, a castellated head of Italy, the statue of Romulus and Remus suckled by the wolf, and portraits of King Victor Emmanuel. The Facist emblems appear on each stamp.

**GYPING EVEN IN RARE STAMP TRADES—PHILATELIST DESCRIBES HOW SHARPERS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF COLLECTORS AND OTHERS.**

"Stamp collecting is a fascinating occupation to those that naturally are attracted to it," said the philatelist, "but it is a nerve-wracking avocation and full of grief.

"Every year the path of the philatelist becomes harder. It is a path that is lined with thorns. One has to have the angelic disposition of St. Francis to be a contented stamp collector in these days when ever governments gyp the collector. Yes, I said governments, and I mean governments, and I don't hesitate to include Uncle Sam in the list.

"Years ago we philatelists knew about where we stood as a general thing. When, after much care and searching, we assembled a complete collection of the stamp issues of any nation we felt assured that it was complete and dependable. It has got so nowadays that some countries put out eight or ten new issues every year, and since every collector must have one and usually two copies of every such issue it puts a heavy burden on him.

"Now here is where the gyping comes in. There are governments that make a practice of issuing new stamps for the sole purpose of selling the bulk of such issues to the dealers and collectors and making a nice thing of it. This has been proved by a scrutiny of the sheets of stamps offered. Stamps in such sheets have been lightly and very neatly canceled in one corner—the cancellation barely showing and not at all interfering with the looks of the stamp. In some cases the government has not even troubled to put mucilage on the back of such stamps.

"Philatelists nowadays have their black lists of governments against which they feel they have a real grievance. On this black list are Bulgaria, Bavaria, Roumania, Bosnia, Czechoslovakia and several other states. Nicaragua, which issues ten or a dozen stamp issues every year, comes in for censure, and so do other Central and South American countries, such as Guatemala, Honduras, Salvadore, Ecuador and Chile. Other states that we stamp collectors feel like to turn a pretty penny at our expense are Liberia, North Borneo, Nyassa and some of the French colonies. They are almost constantly printing pretty pictures on brilliantly colored stamps for the purpose mostly, it would appear, of attracting the cash of the unhappy philatelist.

"The philatelist sees little reason for so many new issues. Usually there is only a slight variation from the preceding issue, but that variation, however slight, makes it a different stamp. The philatelist must have it to make his collection complete. The dealers must buy up large quantities and hold them until the issue is replaced by still a later issue and permitting the former issue to become saleable. When this situation is multiplied in the case of only one nation some ten to twenty times one can understand why the philatelist likes to go off in a corner and think up new profanity.

"One wonders why the English stamp, or at least a British stamp isn't quite good enough for the twenty-five or thirty principal dependencies and commonwealths of the British crown. But one standard stamp isn't enough. All of the dominions and colonies and dependencies and provinces must have their individual issues, and not one but numerous such issues, all brilliant in color and furnishing attractive pictures of jungles and wild beasts and such like things. The same is true of France and her colonies and of Italy and her colonies. The French colonies and protectorates bloom forth almost annually

with a brand new set, and these issues have a remarkably wide sale all over the world.

"Remember, there are thousands of serious, scientific philatelists, but there are hundreds of thousands of amateur stamp collectors who especially yearn for these exotic colonial issues. There is big money in this game for the governments because the cost of printing the stamps is small, and since the bulk of them never get into the mails the profit is pretty close to 100 per cent.

"Now comes the Vatican State to add to our woes. Shortly after the state was formed and recognized it issued fifteen varieties of stamps, with a total face value of about three million dollars. So ardent was the demand all over the world for these issues that within three weeks more than two million dollars worth had been sold to dealers and collectors, two-thirds of the entire issue. Now it is announced that there is to be a second issue which will have 'only a few variations of design' from the original issue. That is why collectors go mad. 'Only a few slight variations,' yet they will have to buy up the second issue to keep their collections straight. Sometimes one has to use a magnifying glass to detect the variations, yet they are there.

"Uncle Sam makes rather a good thing out of this stamp business. Every so often this country puts out a stamp commemorating something or other or some fine achievement, like Lindbergh's, and of course the collectors must have the issue. In the last fiscal year the treasury realized a sum just short of \$300,000 from the sale of stamps to dealers and collectors through the Government's Philatelic Stamp Agency, an institution it established in Washington especially to deal with collectors. This money was almost all clear profit. The principal complaint the philatelists have against this government is the issuance of too many commemorative issues—issues celebrating some event or occurrence that probably will have been forgotten inside of fifty years. It's a hard life, the stamp collector's."—N. Y. Sun.

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#### SOME BRITISH POSTAL FRANKS

Postal franks are here to stay, of that we are positive, the only thing is, that we philatelists hope, that they do not supersede the adhesive postage stamps which we love so much, altogether. As a means of speeding up business and saving a lot of labor they undoubtedly will be greatly used, and will retain their place in most business firms from which an enormous amount of correspondence emanates.

So far as it is possible to discover, philatelists have not taken to them very kindly, for which they cannot be blamed, being so crude and ungainly in comparison, even to the ugliest stamps we may know. Nevertheless it is necessary for us to take a little notice of them, if only for the interest which is attached to them.

No doubt the postal authorities appreciate the advent of the franking machine more than we philatelists do, as it obviates the use of postage stamps altogether.

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#### WOMAN'S \$3,500 STAMP LUCK.

The sale of a block of nine 1-cent British Guiana stamps in London for \$3,250 and a strip of five 4-cent stamps for \$250 has enriched an elderly woman of Plymouth. She had read an article on rare stamps and remembered that her husband, who had been a sailor, had sent her some as a "valentine." Fortunately she had preserved them.

## FISCAL NOTES.—By O. T. Hartman.

Looking through volume I of the *Fiscal Philatelist*, 1892, it might not be amiss, being December, 1929, close to the end of another year to give the readers of the West a few reminiscent notes.

British Hat Tax.—This tax was passed in Great Britain on October 1, 1784, for the benefit of King George III. All persons vending in retail within the cities of London and Westminster a stamp-duty of 40sh. Other parts of Great Britain a stamp-duty of 5sh. "For every felt or wool, stuff or beaver hat, or any leather or japanned hat, not exceeding the price of 4sh a tax of 3d; from 4 to 7sh, 6d; from 7 to 12sh, 1sh; and over 12sh a tax of 2sh. Any person taking out the license required by this act, shall have affixed such stamped ticket, etc., inside the hat, as the commissioner shall direct.

English College Stamps, perhaps you know what they represent, like All Souls' College, Exeter, Keble, St. John, Selwyn, Merton, Balliol and Hartford were offered. Already then priced high, for instance the Merton College blue, embossed, at 50sh.

A set of Nicaragua telegraph of 10 stamps unused for 2sh. 6d. Now this set is listed at around 36sh.

The old British deed stamps with the value stamped onto the deed, (often called the lead stamp) go far back. Some of William and Mary, Queen Anne, George I, II or III, mostly the 6d value could be bought for 1sh. up, an L200 of George III for 10sh. (cheap then). Queen Victoria were not high.

Old familiar names of that period like Walter Morley, Bogert & Durbin, Olaf Grilstad, W. Hadlow, E. T. Parker as advertisers can be remembered.

Fred George Lundy did certainly know how to publish a first class fiscal magazine. My wish there was one now. That is all that is needed to boost the collecting of revenues, etc.

Colorado joined in October the family of state revenues. So far I have seen a green, orange and a carmine stamp, and a 100 pound tag to be used on commercial feeding stuffs, issued by the director of markets.

When a person has kept a stamp for over thirty years a kind of halo surrounds it and a belief of a possible value thereto. This person, being hard up came to me to sell this stamp. I felt sorry for him, it was a 50pf. Bavarian revenue issued in 1875, and still only worth just one cent retail. Why is it that people will keep the common stuff, and you hear so often of the valuable destroyed. Can you explain?

Perhaps you have noticed that the greater part of Mexican Renta Interior revenues of the older types come mostly divided, generally the upper part. I think I can present a part solution. On checks requiring no record the whole stamp is used but like duplicate drafts part of the stamp remains on the stub for record. At least that is my solution on entire cancelled checks in my collection.

## SPY STAMPS

A little-known side-line of the Secret Service in the war will be revealed at London auction rooms when nine used German stamps will be offered. They were forged by the British government for the use of spies dropped behind the enemy lines. Careful search by philatelists has revealed only minor flaws in the designs, and the paper, watermark and perforations are excellent. Two values were made, the red 10-pfennig and the gray 15-pfennig, and a block of nine of the latter is for sale.

## PRECANCEL NOTES.—A. F. Gamber, Valley City, N. Dak.

The writer is often asked, "If you were in my place, wanting to start a precancel collection, what sort of start would you make?" That would depend on whether you want to make a general start or a restricted one. If the former, the only way to make it is to make it, one never learns to swim by standing on the bank. Just start in. I think I have indicated in some of my earlier West notes the best way to make a start in general collecting.

But if I wanted to make a restricted start, I am sure I'd confine my beginning efforts to Bureau Prints. Reasons: First, none of them is of earlier date than 1923, and most of them can still be secured. Our leading dealers offer Bureau Print packets of from 500 to 1600 varieties, mighty nigh a complete collection in itself. The total number issued to date is a bit over 1,800 varieties, which certainly is not an impossibly large number to hope to own. But right now is the time to start your Bureau collection if you're going to do it, because a whole new postal set is projected, and quite a few items among the 1,800 are getting scarcer every day. They're here today, gone tomorrow. Second, Bureaus include only the lower values of the set, ½c through the 10c only, so in most cases a very creditable showing even of the perf 10's, for sometime obsolete, can be made at a very reasonable cost. Of course there are exceptions to this, but in general the statement is accurate. Further, many of the type now current can be secured from mail and sources, or by exchange, and many additions to one's collection made without any money cost. Third, the future of Bureaus as an investment is absolutely secure. We have no figures on the number of Bureau collectors, but it is safe to say that far more people are collecting them than any other kind of precancels. Many U. S. collectors are including Bureaus as a part of their regular U. S. collections. I think their judgment in this is eminently sound. Bureaus are an output of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and as such are just as collectable as the stamps that that Bureau puts out. This idea was hooted at not so long ago, but not now. The nit wit who hoots and goes his way lets the one with the sober second thought have his laugh at a later day. I'll bet you'd be surprised if you knew how ardently many a regular U. S. collector is collecting Bureaus. Many of them are doing so secretly, they have belliached about precancels being in the same class as cigar bands so long that they don't dare collect Bureaus otherwise and save their faces. The point is, the ranks of the Bureau collectors are being swelled larger and larger every day. Which means stability of value and an assured future for the collections already formed. Now don't get me wrong. I don't mean that you can assemble a 90 per cent complete Bureau collection today for say \$100, and sell it tomorrow for \$200 or even \$100. I do mean to say that he who brings his Bureau collection up to date as nearly as possible right now, and who keeps it thus, will, in 5 or 10 years from now have reason to compliment himself on his excellent business acumen. If you know of any form of collecting of which more can be definitely and assuredly said, I advise you to follow it and not trifle with any kind of stamp collecting.

Just a word as to the investment phase of collecting. It has two extremes, one is the darned pest who thinks anything he has is worth a fortune, the one who is forever talking catalogue, catalogue, increases in price, costs, etc. The other extreme is the one who collects for pleasure only, and who doesn't like to have his fun spoiled by any mention of catalogue or prices. Both these guys give me a pain in the neck. Somewhere in between them is the reasonable mean, and I think that's where most of us stand. We collect mainly for

fun, because we're collectors by birth, for relaxation, for the friendships it brings us, the delightful correspondence it opens. And we trust that our skill and judgment in buying, at some future time may be rewarded by a reasonable profit when our treasures are sold. Now what more could anyone expect? What more could any one have a right to expect? Of course we read once in a while of a find, a lucky pickup, which has yielded hugely disproportionate returns to the lucky ones. But most of us are sensible enough to know that these are exceptions and not the normal characteristics of collecting.

And another thing, while we are on the subject; if your family is not interested in your collecting, doesn't encourage it or sympathize with it, why should you be so all-fired anxious about gathering together something that can be sold after your death for their benefit? Just think that over. How many collectors do enjoy the sympathy of their folks? Mighty few, if you ask me. Then get the maximum of pleasure out of your collecting, and as the years roll on and you feel you're getting old, sell out and enjoy the proceeds yourself. This may sound selfish, but so is the standoffish attitude our folks take toward our collecting, if you ask me.

But we have wandered several leagues off from the subject of Bureau collecting, haven't we? Nemmine, I was all through anyway.

May I ask West readers who have sent stamps for copies of the ABC of Precancels, please to be patient? The revised edition is very slow in appearing, but it will be here some day. Meanwhile, I have your addresses and will care for you as soon as I can.

The 1930 Precancel Catalogue should be on sale by the time these words appear in print. Much larger, much more accurate, in fact practically a new book. The owners hoped to have it on sale in October, but many delays, none of them attributable to them, have held it up. The Hoovers have learned a good deal about catalogue production since a year ago, the chances are that in the production of the next book they'll show us what they learned.

I am always willing to answer queries etc on the subject of precancels, if you want my help enough to send stamp for reply. Postal card queries rate the waste basket all the time.

#### U. S. "KNIGHT OF PHILATELY."

Major T. Charlton Henry of Philadelphia, who is prominent among American stamp collectors, attended a special meeting of the executive committee of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in London and signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists with a silver pen.

Only a few dozen names, headed by that of the King, who is himself an enthusiastic stamp collector, decorate this roll. Major Henry is the first citizen of the United States to sign it. Stamp collectors regard the signing of the roll as receiving the knighthood of philately. "The names of all those who may be asked to sign have first to be submitted to the King for approval," said Mr. E. R. Woodward, president of the City of London Philatelic Society.

Many are asking about the flapper stamp from Salvador. The young lady whose picture is on this stamp has recently been visiting in New Orleans, La., Her name is Senorita Tula Serra, and the stamp is Scott's No. 503, issued in 1924.—Mekeel.

## ADVERTISING CANCELLATIONS.—By M. Sorensen.

No new U. S. cancellations have been observed. A few old ones are used by some offices, but it seems that this interesting and novel form of advertising has been abandoned in our country. I have noticed a few new ones from Canada, unfortunately some of them were so poorly printed that I could not read them.

Calgary, Alta., Canada, in 4 lines: VOTE ELECTION DAY. VOTE AS YOU PLEASE, BUT VOTE.

Vancouver, B. C., in 4 lines: EXHIBITION CHAMPION STAMPEDE, VANCOUVER, AUG. 7-17.

Same office, in 2 lines: OBSERVE SUNDAY.

Edmonton, Alta., in 2 lines: USE BETTER, GROW BETTER CROPS.

Same office, in 4 lines: DO NOT PLACE MONEY IN UNREGISTERED MAIL.

Same office, in 3 lines: EDMONTON APRIL 9TH TO 13TH, 1929, SPRING SHOW.

Calgary, in 4 lines: CALGARY EXHIBITION AND STAMPEDE, JULY 8TH TO 15TH.

Vancouver, in 5 lines: BUY A DOMINION GOVERNMENT ANNUITY. ASK POSTMASTER FOR BOOKLET.

Saskatoon, in 4 lines: ARMISTICE DAY CANADIAN LEGION VETCRAFT POPPIES.

Brantford, Ont., in 3 lines: INSURE YOUR PARCELS AT THE POST OFFICE.

Drammen, Norway, in 2 lines: JUBILEUMSUTSTILLING I DRAMMEN 1930.

Trondhjem, Norway, uses a similar one.

Amsterdam, Netherland, in 3 lines: POSTZEGELS RECUTS BOVEN IN IN DEN HOEK; VLUGGERVERSENDING.

London, England, in three lines: EXHIBITION NEWCASTLE ON TYNE MAY TO OCTOBER '29.

Bergen, Norway, in 3 lines: OLAVSJUBILEET—1030—1930—TRONDHJEM.

Copenhagen, Denmark, in 3 lines: BESTIL POST—OG TELEGRAF—HAANDBOG PAA POSTHUSET.

## RARE POSTMARKS ON STAMPS

As the number of postage stamps to be collected grows, one would suppose that the scope of stamp collecting would narrow. Not at all. The present vogue for collecting stamps used on covers shows how collectors are branching out.

Postmarks are a subject I advise collectors to watch. There is going to be a lot of interest in rare examples. I have a few British stamps on covers used in South Africa during the Boer War and a number of U. S. stamps with field post office postmarks from the Philippines dating from the Hispano-American War. These are not scarce, but they represent the kind of thing to look for.

German stamps with colonial postmarks, dating from before the introduction of special colonial stamps, are also well worthy of attention.—Bazar.

"No country has had more varied, attractive or well executed postage stamp designs than the United States; nor, all things considered, can it be said that in the postal history of our country there have been any considerable number of ineffective or inartistic stamps."—Gossip.

**WEED OUT YOUR STAMP COLLECTION.—By Douglas Armstrong.**

There was never a time since people first started to collect stamps when the question of "condition" was of such paramount importance as it is today. It is no exaggeration to say that fully two-thirds of the specimens that find their way into the average general collection are absolutely worthless when it comes to realization.

Too little discrimination is shown by the general run of collectors in selecting their stamps, and the idea seems to be prevalent that any old copy is better than none at all, or that even part of a stamp is all right provided it can be bought cheaply.

This misguided policy has been responsible for much disillusionment and heartburning on the part of collectors who are apparently oblivious of the fact that nowadays second or third rate examples of medium stamps are a drug on the market, and therefore dear at any price.

Anyone who sets out to collect postage stamps successfully must need make perfection his aim. No matter how common or how rare the stamps he affects, they must be chosen with scrupulous care and due regard to their subsequent saleability.

On almost every hand it is possible (but unwise) to buy stamps in inferior condition at enormous percentages off "catalogue" value, with the result that thousands of so-called philatelists fill their albums with an accumulation of "throw-outs," or damaged defaced copies.

Some collectors take the view that "catalogue" prices are only made to be cut, priding themselves on the fact that they have never paid full "catalogue" for anything. More often than not their albums bear witness to their words! They lose sight of the fact that catalogue quotations are for specimens in really good condition, and the reason they command these prices is because in many cases seven out of ten copies have been discarded as not being up to standard.

There are, it is true, thousands of stamps that may be picked up in good condition at quite modest proportions of catalogue quotations; against the purchase of which there is nothing to be said, so long as they fill the bill; but it does not follow because a stamp is listed at 10s for a perfect specimen, that a second or third rate copy is worth even a tenth of that figure.

Here are a few hints for the would-be successful stamp buyer, based on a fairly wide experience. First of all let us consider unused stamps, which are generally the more popular. "Never buy grapes with the bloom off" is a sound adage to bear in mind. If the color has lost its freshness, is faded, rubbed or discolored in any way, let it alone.

Pay particular attention to the centering, that is to say, see that the margins between the design and the extreme edges of the stamp are equal, or reasonably so, on all sides. It is better to pay a slightly enhanced price for a "well centered" stamp than a trifle less for one that is "off-center." In the case of an imperforate stamp make sure that the design is not cut into at any point, or if perforated that none of the perforations has been broken off in the course of breaking up the sheets.

Continental collectors are commendably meticulous in this respect and make a rule of never dividing perforated stamps without first folding them exactly down the center when tearing them apart. This is, perhaps, counsel of perfection, but it will serve to illustrate the point.

Examine the backs of the stamps as carefully as their "faces." Unused, or mint stamps should have all the gum intact and not portions removed through

careless mounting or with fragments of previous mounts adhering due to the use of inferior quality hinges. Watch out particularly for "thinning" at the corners or elsewhere caused by accidental adhesion to the album or stock book.

In short, see to it that your stamp is as nearly in the state that it left the post office as it is possible to get it. A stamp described as "mint" should not previously have been mounted at all.

When buying used stamps choose those with the light but legible post marks. Stamps which have partly or entirely escaped cancellation in the post are as little to be desired as those that are heavily obliterated. Be sure that the main feature of the design, such as the portrait or other vignette, is not obscured.

Beware of fading or discoloration caused by damp or chemical action. Again pay attention to centering and perforation and scrutinize the back for any suspicion of "thinning," pin-points or similar defects. Should a stamp, supposedly "used," still have gum on the back it is, in all probability, "cancelled-to-order" and therefore to be avoided.

If these golden rules with regard to "condition" are strictly observed, the collector will have no cause to regret his purchases and may rest assured, moreover, that his stamps will increase in value as time goes on and find a ready market whenever he may wish to dispose of them.—Bazar.

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#### A FORTY-MILLION-DOLLAR STAMP

It is never mentioned in the gossip of stamp collectors, but probably the most expensive stamp in the world is a one-centavo Nicaraguan stamp which brought forty million dollars to the Panama Canal Company of France in 1902. In 1879 they had secured a concession from Colombia to build a canal through Panama, but went bankrupt. In 1902, Philippe Bunau-Varilla, a young engineer, was sent to Washington to sell the concession.

The United States Canal Commissioners, in their report to Congress had recommended that the canal be built through Nicaragua. It was cheaper, and more direct than the Panama route. But Nicaragua was a country of active volcanoes and subject to earthquakes. An inopportune report of an eruption of Momotombo was hastily denied by the Nicaraguan government and a statement issued that there had been no recent eruptions.

But an unexpected ally was found by Bunau-Varilla almost on the eve of the senate vote. Rummaging through a stamp dealer's stock in Washington, he came upon a Nicaraguan stamp showing the volcano Momotombo sending up a beautifully engraved cloud of smoke over Lake Managua. He bought the entire stock. Next day, each senator received one of the stamps, mounted over the caption: "An Official Witness of the Volcanic Activity of Nicaragua." Three days later the vote was taken. The Panama site won by the narrow margin of eight votes.

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#### THIRTY-YEAR HUNT FOR STAMPS ENDS WITH \$50,000 SALE

Boston Traveler says: Fred S. Raff, a bachelor, was a stamp collector when a lad, but he kept at it for thirty years and now he has sold his collection for \$50,000. Raff, who specialized in United States pre-cancelled stamps, had about 8,000,000 stamps in his collection, he estimated. They cost him around \$10,000 in cash to say nothing of the time. He began buying bags of pre-cancelled stamps, which later grew to tons. At one time he bought five tons of stamps. It took him several years to assort them in his spare time. The valuable ones he kept, the others he sold to dealers for boys' packets.

**"IS PHILATELICALLY CHANGING?"**

I find the study of old covers and delving among musty documents for historical data intensely interesting, but so is the study of the stamps themselves. Nowadays there is a strong tendency to study everything except the stamps—history, postmarks, pre-stamp marks and franks, and a host of other matters. It is often very fascinating and it is certainly much easier.

That, I think, is one of the reasons for these wanderings in the by-ways of Philately. It requires a great deal of time and energy to produce a serious philatelic study of even a comparatively simple issue or country, and time and energy, in these days, are so often mortgaged in other directions. Therefore we turn to simpler matters and the stamp is, by many, neglected.

Aside from the implication that our American writers prefer to seek the line of least resistance—the "easier," the brain-saving way—I am inclined to dissent from the rest of my esteemed confere's deductions.

Where is the border-line beyond which I may not go, without losing caste, in "the study of the stamps themselves?" To be precise, what constitutes this formal "study?" Are these the ethical limitations: Name of the engraver; firm or printers; kind of paper; color of ink; quality of gum; scale of perforation; dates of issues and quantities; errors; type varieties; shifts; double transfers, and a few other technical matters?

If that is the great goal, we may as well begin rehearsing the "Swan Song" of Philately. None but bespectacled prodigies, with Einstein tendencies would thereafter be attracted to stamp-collecting.

The broader view is acquired in taking the flower-lined "by-ways" that lead to the human side of any study, instead of plodding along the well-worn, monotonous, but clearly marked roads of the caravan. Romance avaunts and the mind contracts in that atmosphere.

If I were buying and selling stamps I would probably qualify myself to discuss the minutiae of my stock; but since I am one of the countless number who collect, I choose to go into the "by-ways" of my hobby and find unending enjoyment in the "stampless covers" of the Confederacy, the "postal franks" of our early West, and the "historical subjects" that supply the real, the human, the alluring side of stamp-collecting.

Well, possibly we're 'way below "parity" in matters philatelic, too.—Southern Philatelist.

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**STAMPS NOW TAKING THEIR PLACE AS ANTIQUES—WHY VALUES OF  
REALLY FINE SPECIMENS WILL SOAR.—By Douglas Armstrong.**

Today the humble postage stamp is apt to be regarded as somewhat of an upstart in the collecting world. True, it is collected assiduously, but its devotees form a cult of their own and despite the recognition extended to philately by a few eminent connoisseurs like the late Mr. Henry Duveen, the average collector of antiques is inclined to adopt a superior attitude towards the mere philatelist.

But the stamp collector cannot remain longer outside the pale. Ten years hence all this will be changed. In 1940 Rowland Hill's ubiquitous postage label will have attained its century, and the collecting of postage stamps be raised to the status of an antiquarian pursuit.

That postage stamps do actually possess an antiquarian interest is undeniable, nor in many instances are they unworthy of consideration as objets d'art. Historically they are associated with one of the greatest reforms of the

last century, cheap postage, and the growth of international communications.

In many instances they are also worthy of attention as objets d'art, representing the work of some of the finest artists and engravers of their day. The remarkable popularity of the early line-engraved British Colonials is due as much to their beauty of design and execution as to their rarity.

Once stamps are admitted to the company of the antique, however, it may be safely asserted that the hobby of philately, already firmly established, will take on a new prestige. Stamps, instead of being confined to a few specialized dealers, will be found in every antique shop.

Stamps have yet to be admitted as "museum pieces"—the Tapling Collection at the British Museum stands almost alone—but for some time past astute philatelists have been steadily acquiring anything really "superb" that comes onto the market without being too particular as to the price paid over and above current "catalogue" quotations.

Catalogue prices, it is recognized, are based upon average copies, and one has only to glance through the ordinary general collection to realize how much greater is the value of a really superb specimen, or, more particularly, of a pair or block in fine preservation.

In other branches of collecting it is an accepted rule that an exceptional item commands an exceptional price. The same rule is coming to be applicable to the museum pieces of philately. As the hobby grows in years, so the standard of "condition" becomes more and more exacting. Stamps that would have passed for "fine" a few years ago are rejected nowadays on account of some trifling defect.

As a result the stamp market is rapidly becoming denuded of perfect examples of the classic early issues, and old-time philatelists are astounded at the high prices frequently paid for rarities.

When the antiquary turns his attention to stamps he will incline, in all probability, towards fine copies on the entire letters bearing early-dated postmarks illustrating the history of the postal service—a form of philately which has an increasing number of adherents—and instead of hiding his treasures within an album will exhibit them in sunk mount frames or special cabinets upon his walls for all the world to see.

As time goes on the tendency will be for rare stamps to become rarer and common stamps commoner. The connoisseur philatelist will be content to concentrate upon the former and to leave the latter to the schoolboy and the duettante.

Though the centenary of the postage stamp is still ten years off, there is a steadily growing interest in the fine old issues of the first philatelic decade, more particularly among American collectors who are the biggest buyers of rare stamps, and there is no doubt that the centenary will see the most spectacular advances in the value of early issues.—Bazar.

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The newspapers recently gave varying degrees of prominence to a dispatch from Baton Rouge, La., telling that a co-ed at the Louisiana State University had received a gift from Queen Marie of Roumania, "a complete collection of postage stamps." Miss Bourgeois, the recipient, was requested by the queen to choose a memento of Roumania and she nominated postage stamps.—Mekeel.

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One guy said "Advertising doesn't pay," but he changed his mind after trying West ads.

**NEW NORWEGIAN STAMPS.—By M. Sorenson.**

Norway is preparing a new set of stamps in commemoration of the 900th anniversary of Christianity in the country in 1930. It was in 930 that the king, Olav Trygvason, spread Christianity over Norway, by force if need be, and he was killed in the battle at Stiklestad. It is this great event which will be commemorated by a jubilee celebration all over the country in 1930.

The superintendent of stamps announces that there will be four denominations—10, 15, 20 and 30 ore—and that they will be ready for distribution to post offices, so they can be on sale on Olsoks Day, July 29, but an effort will be made to get them printed sooner, so they can be on sale May 17th, the national day of liberty.

The 10 and 20 ore stamps will be red and green, and will show a reproduction of an Olav figure, drawn by Gustav Lerum. The 15 ore stamp will probably be brown and show an illustration of the cathedral at Trondhjem, drawn by Froydis Haavardsholm. The 30 ore stamp will be blue, and of the same size as the jubilee stamp of 1914. It will show a reproduction of Arbo's well known painting, depicting the battle of Stikelstad, where King Olav was killed. The superintendent promises that a large enough edition will be printed, so all demands can be filled. At the present time it is planned to print six millions of the 10 ore stamp; three or four millions of the 15 ore stamp; ten millions of the 20 ore stamp and three millions of the 30 ore stamp, but if needed, new editions will be printed.

A new ten kroner gold coin has already been issued, commemorating above mentioned event. It is a beautiful coin, showing on one side Gustav Lerum's figure of the saint king, Olav. But, curiously enough, the coin is not dated.

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**PHILATELY AS A HOBBY**

We do not wish to over-emphasize the investment or speculative side of the hobby of stamps. That is not its main interest. Philately has not been built up by people who always have both eyes glued on the main chance, but by those who collect for enjoyment without expecting to get it for nothing. A dealer does not expect to sell his stamps for less than they cost him, but a collector frequently does, although he may spend money more freely on stamps than on other hobbies because of the knowledge of this open market which ensures that he will get back a considerable portion of his expenditures. It may be more than cost, or it may be less, and those whose minds are obsessed by speculation must not forget that the majority of stamps are still bought by collectors because they want them, and are willing to pay for the pride of possession without always thinking whether they will get it back again. If it were otherwise there would soon be no hobby.—Philatelic Magazine.

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**AUTOGRAPHS**

As a tree has branches and branches have twigs so does philately branch out. It has its air covers and these have other separations. For instance, air covers with autographs are all the rage now. This sudden rage is caused perhaps to the fact that auction records show that the value of a rare cover is often enhanced 100 per cent, merely because some running a list of all of the signed letters that we have in stock.—Roessler News.

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The next issue will have a lot of "HOT SPOT" bargains, save up. You can't steal cheaper than our advertisers sell.—Sparks.

**WORLD-WIDE PHILATELY.**

Coming events in the world of stamps afford a striking commentary upon the universality of the cult of the postage stamp. The fact that public exhibitions of rare stamps are to be held during nineteen-thirty in Algiers, Berlin, Antwerp and Utrecht is a reminder that in those countries, and indeed in every civilized part of the world, there are philatelists as keen and active as ourselves in the pursuit of the elusive variety and that philately is in very truth the most universal of hobbies.

It is in this internationality that the strength of stamp collecting lies. A rare stamp is as valuable in Berlin, Paris, New York or Buenos Aires as it is in London. In certain instances more so, for it is an accepted axiom that an American stamp fetches the best price in America, a French stamp in France, and a German one in Berlin. The stamp market is world-wide with London as its center and branches in all other great cities. Between them are constantly passing specimens to the aggregate value of some millions of pounds a year. Thus the philatelist in quest of a scarce stamp has at his disposal the resources of a vast organization through which sooner or later he will attain the object of his desire.

The specialist, too, may often add to his knowledge as well as his collection by correspondence with fellow enthusiasts of nations other than his own, whilst frequent international exhibitions provide an opportunity for comparing the results of his own researches with those of his foreign contemporaries.

Collectors who have a working knowledge of French and German possess a distinct advantage over their fellows in their ability to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the contents of the many important contributions to the literature of Philately that are published in these languages, but are seldom available in English translation. Generally speaking it will be found that even a rudimentary acquaintance with the language will suffice to get at the gist of the matter with possibly an occasional reference to a polyglot dictionary of philatelic terms, such as that supplied with the Zumstein Catalogue.

We cannot urge too strongly upon our readers the desirability of cultivating an international outlook upon their hobby. The tendency to measure the sum of things philatelic by our own immediate circle is to be deprecated. There is nothing parochial about Philately—"The world is its parish," and we are all, or should be, its missionaries.

Let our resolution for 1930 be to extend and improve our relations with philatelists overseas and so help further to promote the fellowship of the nations through the medium of our mutual hobby.—Stamp collecting.

**MORE AIR STAMPS—BEAUTIFULLY ENGRAVED ISSUE FROM JAPAN.**

Four new stamps have been issued in Japan for use on correspondence carried by air. The denominations are of 8½, 16½, 18 and 33 sen, and the beautifully engraved design shows an aeroplane above Lake Ashinoko, in the Hakone mountains, with Fujiyama in the distance.

October 12, "The day of the (Spanish) race," is celebrated as a holiday in Argentina, in memory of the discovery of America by Columbus. Three special stamps have been issued this year with designs of a symbolical character, in two of which the ships of Columbus are a minor feature.

Insurance pays for a fire. The "WEST" insures your collection against "Sharpers." Read every number.—Sparks.

**WHY DO WE MEET?**

A reader who is a member of several philatelic societies voices a general grievance which we are sure has much to do with the limited attendance from which most society meetings suffer. He says that from all the meetings he has attended he has never returned home with a single addition to his collection. Surely a large number of members of societies up and down the country have suffered the same disappointment. Too often the displays provided are above the heads of the rank and file, who, after all, form the bulk of the members and are entitled to consideration. At present the exchange of stamps at most meetings has to be more or less surreptitious—no provision is made for it—while buying and selling is positively frowned upon by the executive. Why are we such a lot of snobs in this matter?

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**THE VALUE OF DUPLICATES**

No collector can avoid the possession of duplicates. Somehow they accumulate whether we want them or not, and it is therefore highly desirable that they should be turned to good account in the development of the owner's collection. This can best be done by orderly arrangement by catalogue numbers in a series of loose-leaf collecting books, one or more of which can be brought to any society meeting for exchanging with other collectors. No mounting or pricing need be done, for if the slots are numbered the basis of exchange can be full catalogue price. The one essential is that there shall be somebody else to exchange with, but if only half a dozen members would break down the present atmosphere and make meetings a means of practical additions to one's collection, instead of exclusively theoretical or (very often) superficial examination of other people's, attendances might easily be doubled. Who will lead the way?

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**TOO MUCH CAVIARE**

To examine famous collections is excellent—up to a point. But one cannot live entirely upon caviare, and we believe there is a large section of the collecting public who would definitely welcome opportunities to swap stamps as well. A lot of people hold aloof from philatelic societies owing to lack of such facilities. We have been told over and over again by people who do not belong to societies that they found it too dry and mournful to sit around a table in silence while a big-wig passes round his album pages. They get discouraged, and they drop out. The introduction and encouragement of organized exchange is the way to bigger, brighter and better meetings.

West publisher has heard many speak. Some for national organizations.

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**STAMPS AND RELIGION**

The miniature picture gallery of postage stamps presents a wide range of subjects associated with the religions of the world. A remarkable monograph has been written by two French authors on the Christian Inspiration in stamp designs ("L'Inspiration Chretienne et la Philatelie," by V. Gisquiere and S. Strowski, Amiens, 6 francs) which shows something of the extent to which Christian emblems and Scriptural themes have been utilized by stamp designers. Crosses in many of their varied forms figure on stamps. One which is a quatrefoil in the watermark of some British stamp paper gave offense to Moslems when used for the pretty camel stamps of Sudan in 1898, but aroused no protest from the Malays of Johore, where it was in use from 1896 to 1912.

The Star of Bethlehem made an unexpected entry as an overprint on Turkish stamps issued during the war, a six-pointed star being used in mistake for the five-pointed star that accompanies the crescent emblem of the Turks. It was replaced by a five-pointed star in 1916.

The infant Jesus is represented in the vision of St. Anthony on stamps of Portugal and with the Virgin Mary on stamps of Hungary, Bavaria, Lichtenstein, and the Saar. Among many religious subjects used on Italian stamps that on the issue of 1923 to celebrate the tercentenary of the congregation "De Propaganda Fide" is the most striking, showing Christ after the Resurrection enjoining His disciples: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Holy Year and the St. Francis d'Assisi celebrations have afforded Italy recent opportunities of issuing stamps of religious interest, and the present year will add a set to commemorate the fourteenth centenary of Monte Cassino, in connection with which celebrations have begun and will continue for some months. A portrait of the Pope has been presented on the "catacombs" series of Spanish stamps this year.

There is a long list of saints pictured on stamps, but the St. Anthony series of Portugal is the most curious of the varied incidents in his life depicted, and for the curious invocation, commencing "O blessed tongue," which is printed on the gummed side of the stamps. The shipwreck of St. Paul is the theme of some of the 10s stamps of Malta, and a religious service, the celebration of Mass on the Mount of Crosses, is depicted on the 1 peso stamp of Mexico's 1910 issue.

To these varied subjects may be added many scenes from Bible lands on the British issues for Palestine and the French issues for Syria and Grand Lebanon.

Easter Island, that remote outpost of the South-East Pacific, has its mystery for the stamp collector, small in comparison with the mystery of its mighty monuments and images. A member of the expedition in the non-magnetic yacht "Carnegie" in 1916, Captain Bradley Jones, appears to have obtained three stamps of the 1915 Chilean issue, over-printed "Rapa-Nui" (Great Rapa), the native name of the island. He and other members of the expedition posted letters with these stamps to await the arrival of the trading schooner from Chile, but the letters were never delivered. Four or five unused copies of the stamps retained by Captain Jones have been the subject of a good deal of inquiry in the United States, but no reliable information has been forthcoming.

At the time of the visit of the "Carnegie" the population was roughly 250, all Kanakas save two, the governor (a Chilean) and a Portuguese, the sole survivor of a shipwreck who had gone native. So the need for postage stamps on Easter Island could not have been a pressing one.—Stamp Lover.

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A collection of Civil War envelopes were recently sold for a record price. Mr. Robert S. Emerson, of Providence, R. I., recently purchased from William S. White of Englewood, N. J., a fine collection of about 600 Civil War envelopes for about \$35,000. This collection was exhibited in the New York Stamp Show in 1926 and won the gold medal in its class.—Stamp Topics.

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The "WEST" is a "One Way" Teacher, right and bright, join us. "ALL THIS IS FOR YOU," "WEST."—Sparks.



# BOILED DOWN

## ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

Stamp collecting is a hobby that can be enjoyed by the boy and girl with a few cents to spare each week, as well as by the millionaire who will ride his hobby with a bank roll. The pleasures of hobbyism are at hand to all.

This stamp collecting game is getting too rough. We even read about dam stamps, now.

A few words to all serious collectors: My aim is quality. One good stamp may be worth more than thousands of bad ones.

Why is it that people who call themselves philatelists so seldom look like it? And why is they so seldom are?

Now that the nice weather has arrived why not "go over" your duplicates and no doubt you will find some nice shades, which will look nice in your album by the side of the more common shade.

The stamps of the past are the best investment at present as they have a great future before them.

A wide-spaced variety of the United States 2c "Molly Pitcher," overprint fetched \$51 at a recent sale in New York.

Let us have your Ad in next issue. It will pay you large dividends.

Most Persian postage stamps show the royal lion or a Shah.

The 75 centime French Indo-China postage stamp of 1907 shows a dancing girl of Cambodia which has been widely criticized.

Malta has issued several stamps depicting Bible characters.

Stamped envelopes were issued in the United States for the first time in June, 1853.

The first United States postage stamp bore the portrait of Ben Franklin.

Liberia has issued a novel stamp. It has been designed to appear as if it were a book.

A sheet of the 3 groschen Bremen of 1855 fetched \$5,250 at a recent sale in Berlin. The sheet contained 120 stamps.

A little white space around your ad will work wonders. Try it once and note the results. Advertise in the West, it pays best.

Second issue, No. 4, Norway, copies seems to be a stamp much called for, for such a low priced item. Getting popular.

It might interest you to know that there were over four million of the U. S. 1847 5c stamps printed. How we remember when they were sold at 20 and 30 cents.

George Washington appears on a Brazilian and French postage stamp.

Stamps of Bermuda picture only kings, queens and sailing ships.

Denmark will issue three charity stamps on May 1. Their values will be 10, 15 and 25 ore, and each will be sold at 5 ore above face, this surplus going to the cancer fund.

The King of England collects his own portraits on stamps.

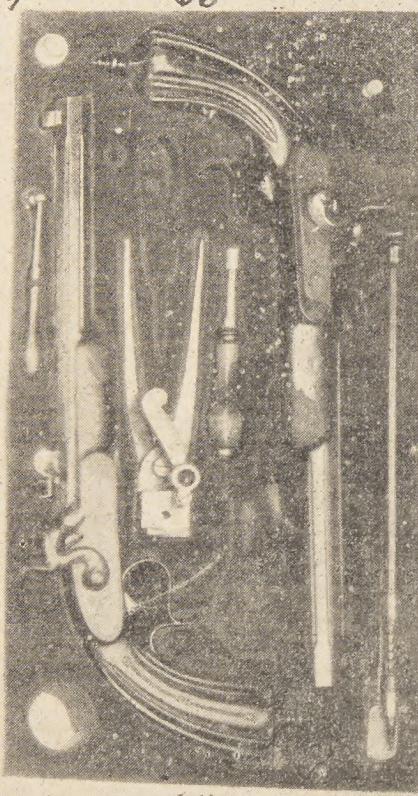
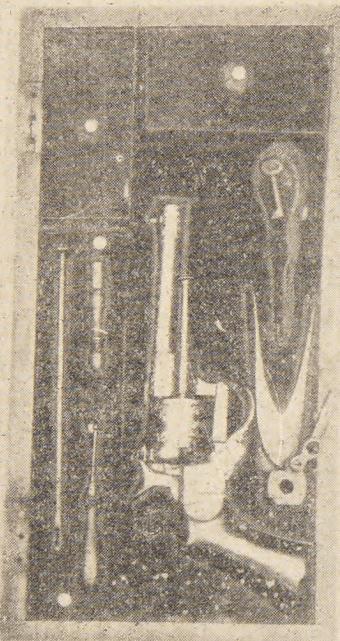
She was only a postman's daughter, But, oh! how she spoilt the males.

# Our Illustrations

65

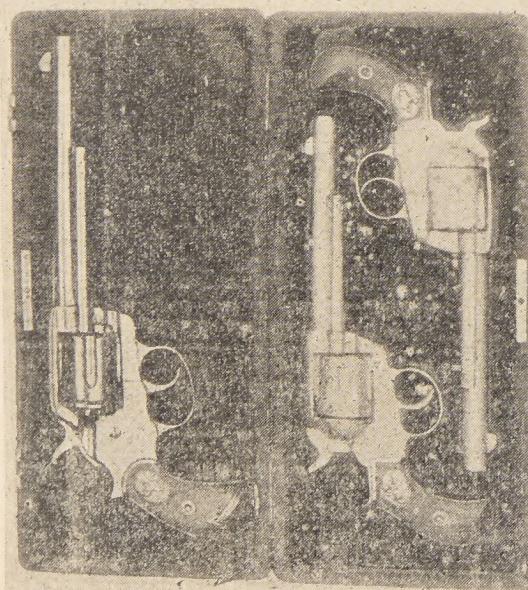
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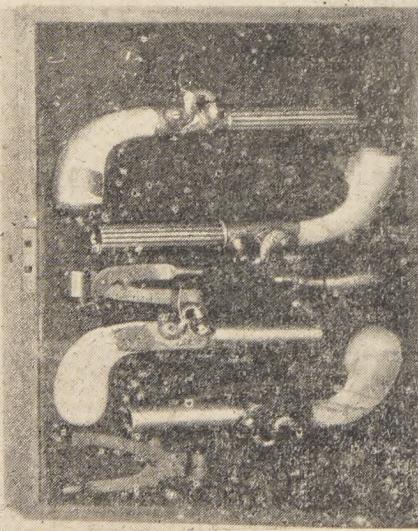


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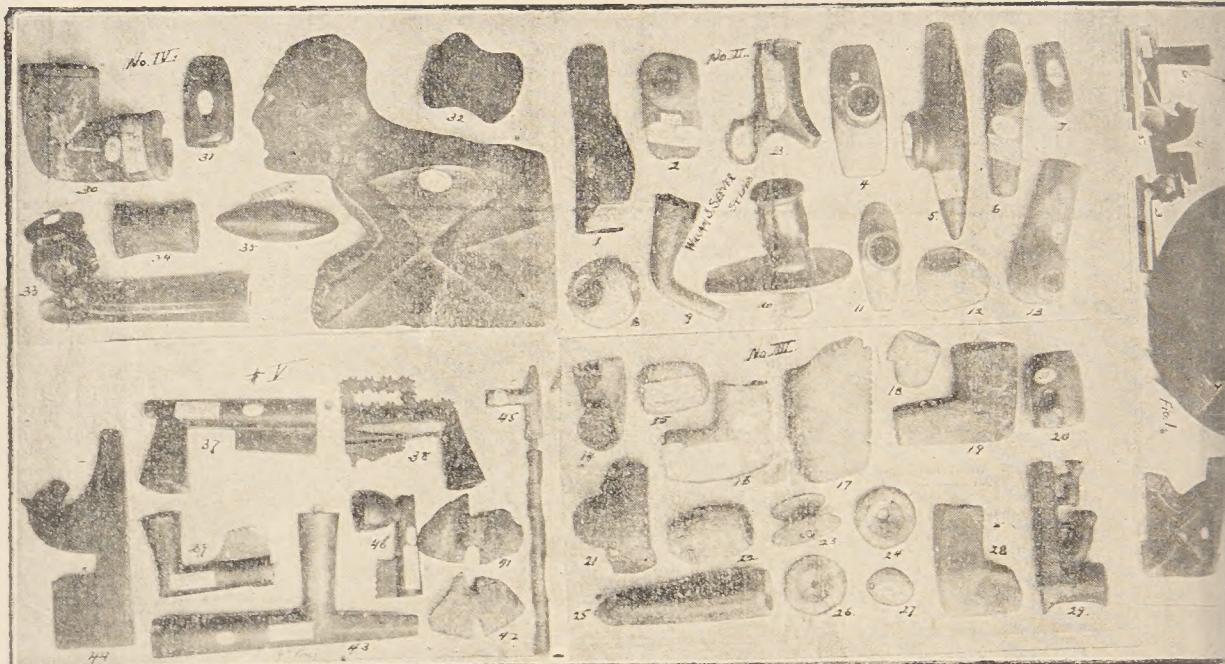
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SOLD BY WALPOLE GALLERIES, NEW YORK



### Indian Relics of Seever, Missouri Collector.

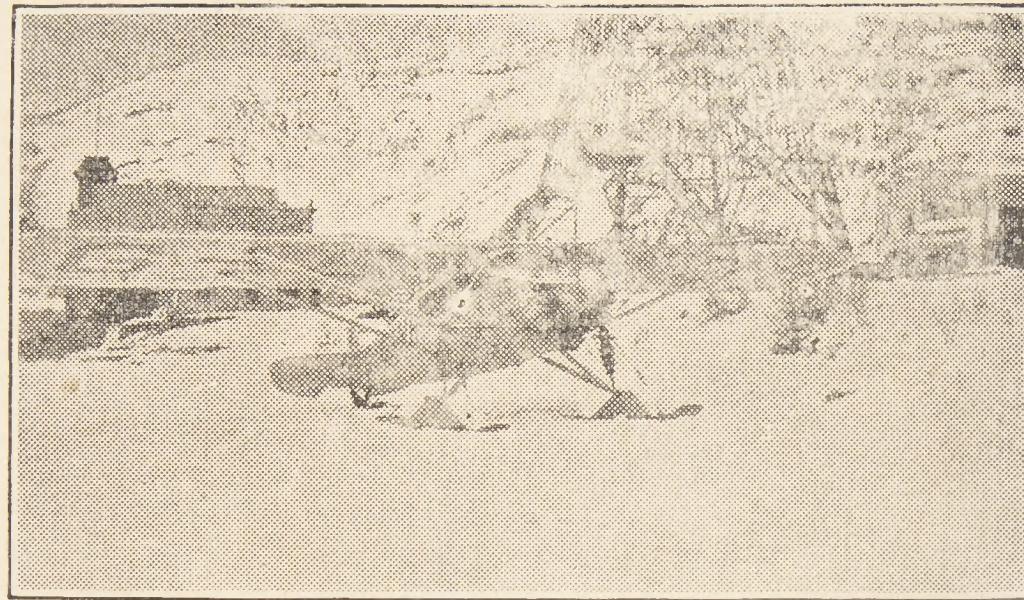


Geo. F. Emsburg.



Indian Relics & Curios in  
Collection of C. M. Thomas,  
Siloam Springs, Ark.

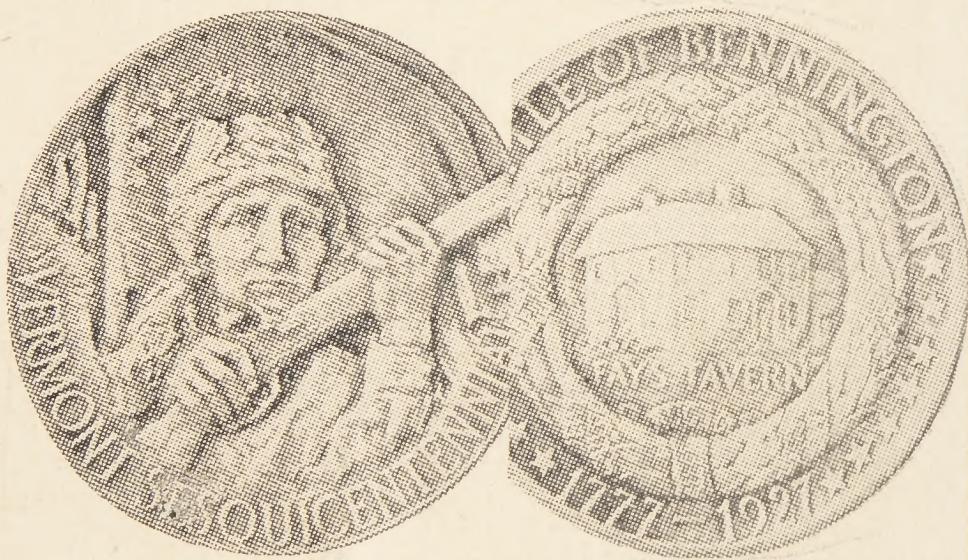
Porterville, Calif., one of West's best



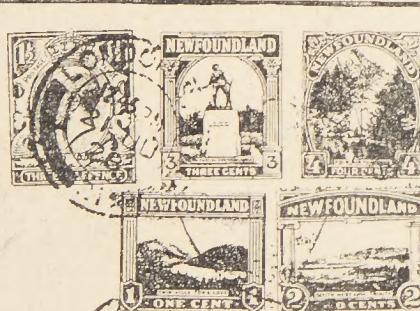
This cut shows some of the planes now flying in the Yukon.

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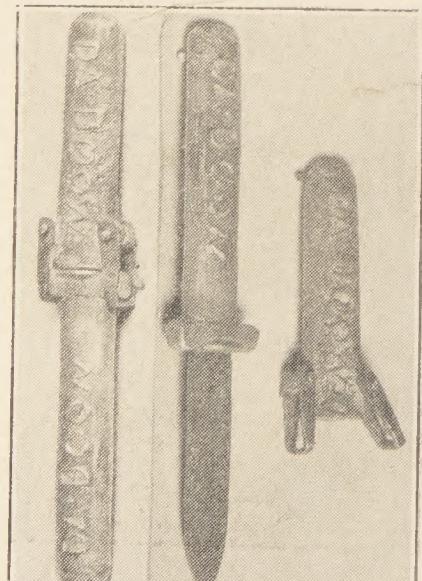
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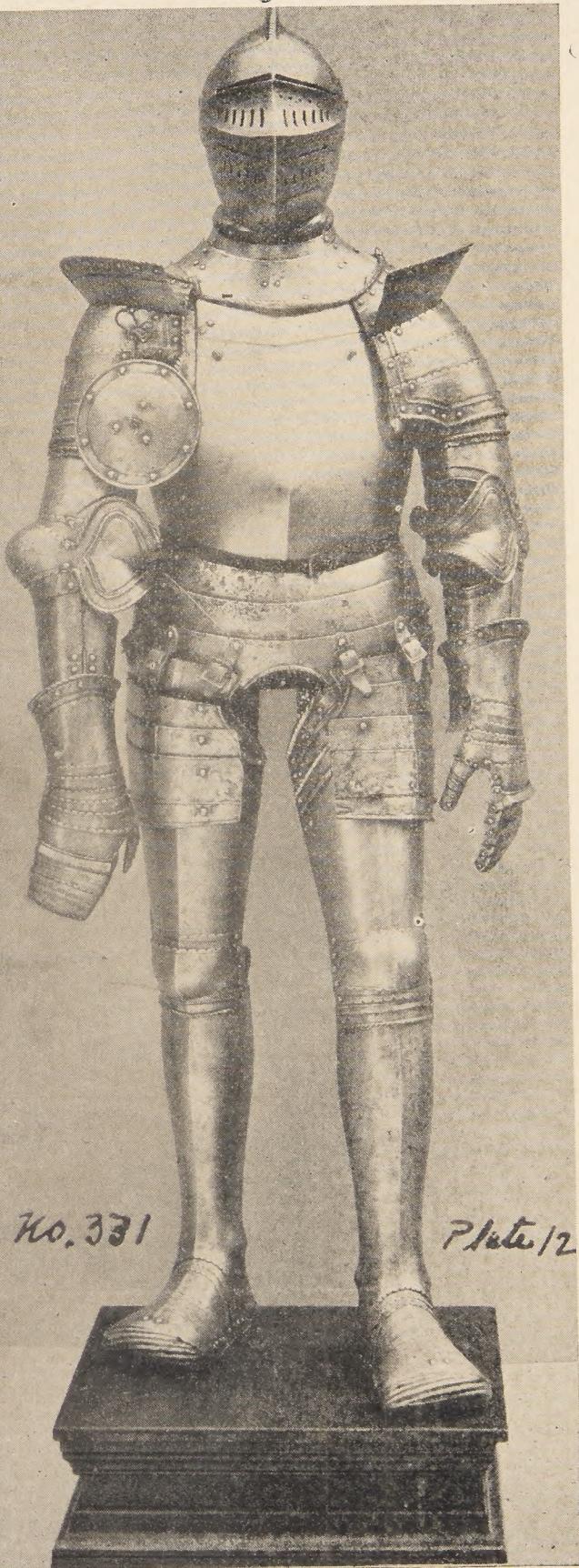
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Wilma Stultz  
N.Y. 4204  
"Friendship"



Victor Gordon Esq  
High Commissioner  
158 Victoria London, England



Daniel Boone knife found inside of  
tree in Indiana. For sale by J  
Willis of Sullivan, Indiana.



SOLD BY WALPOLE GALLERIES, NEW YORK



This shows Norma Talmadge who always uses T. A. T. planes when flying east. She is in New York right at this moment—a very strikingly beautiful, quiet person.

# NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet as a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten divinities, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coins, coinage, currency, medals, etc., We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operating with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting, M. SORENSEN, 1353 BURCH AVE., WEST, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

The name of the Indian chief who was used as a model for the head on the "buffalo nickel" was Two-Gun-White-Calf.

The west still likes its hard money. More than \$700,000 in silver dollars and halves is distributed to Montana banks yearly.

Denier is an old French coin and the chief silver coin of Europe during the mediaeval period.

The Roman copper coin antedates the use of gold and silver money.

It costs the government from \$15,000 to \$18,000 a year to macerate retired paper money.

The number of Hawaiian half dollar minted in 1928 was 10,000. This was the full number authorized by law.

The Canadian quarter contains 83.25 grains of fine silver. The United States quarter contains 86.805 grains of fine silver. The silver in the Canadian coins is a little finer than that in our coins, therefore the value of silver in each is about the same. Canadian bullion is 925 fine and the United States bullion is 900 fine.

One dollar bills last about eight months in circulation. By that time they are soiled and limp enough to be returned to Washington to be destroyed and made into souvenirs.

The mint value of gold remains constant at \$20,671,834.62 per fine ounce, which means an ounce of pure gold.

When John Adams was minister to Great Britain in 1787 it was suggested to him that the Latin phrase meaning "out of many, one" would make a fitting motto for the new independent colonies. On his return to America he transferred the suggestion to his friend, Charles Thompson, secretary of congress, who in 1792 reported his design for a government seal in which the phrase, "E Pluribus Unum," appeared on a ribbon, held in an eagle's beak.

The Smithsonian Institution mounts medals on black cardboard, placing camphor under the glass cover, which is the same size as the cardboard, and frames with wooden moulding. The camphor keeps the medals from tarnishing.

Once in awhile there are wild stories afloat about coins. Sometimes it is to the effect that somebody has found an 1804 dollar, worth a fortune. The latest is about the 1919 dime being worth \$1,000.

An attic in Lincoln, Kansas, recently gave up some relics more than 100 years old. One was a bank note for 5 cents on a Hartford, Conn., bank and was dated 1815. Another relic was a teacher's certificate dated 1808.

## MUSEUMS, MEMORIALS, MARKERS.—By George J. Remsburg.

Many new museums, memorials, markers and the like are being established in various parts of the world. Among those that have recently been established or proposed are the following: A museum for children in New Haven, Conn.; museums of modern art in New York and Boston; a national museum at Copenhagen, Denmark; an Auguste Rodin museum in Philadelphia; a facist historical museum in Mussolini's former office in Rome; a "Museum of Voices," in Paris, embracing thousands of phonograph records registering almost every known language and dialect; a German hygiene museum in Dresden; the Lassen Volcanic National park museum, a gift from B. F. Loomis, as a memorial to his daughter; the Pacific Geographic Society museum in Los Angeles; the American Museum of Public Recreation at Coney Island; the Deutches Museum in Munich; Maryhill Castle museum near The Dalles, Ore.; a public museum for Hastings, Neb.; the Casa Adobe museum, Los Angeles; an art museum at Fitchburg, Mass; Yosemite National park museum; Grand Canyon National park museum; Sequoia National park museum; a maritime museum in San Diego; a museum of peaceful arts in New York; a museum of American industry in Washington; Henry Ford's great museum in Michigan; the Missouri Valley Historical society's museum in Kansas City; Andrew Carnegie Memorial museum in Dumferline, Scotland; Oranienstein Castle museum, Diez, Germany; a museum of famous "fakes," from the Cardiff Giant on down, in London; San Diego (Calif.) Historical Society museum; Museum of California History, Los Angeles; the unique school museum of the St. Louis (Mo.) board of education, moved about from school to school on trucks; "kitchen museums" in Virginia, displaying old time kitchen and culinary utensils; Fort Bridger, Wyo., museum; national museum in house where Napoleon spent his last three nights on French soil after Waterloo, before surrendering to the English; Henry Ford's Thomas A. Edison memorial museum at Dearborn, Mich; a gigantic refrigerator museum in ice-covered Siberia for the scientific preservation of men and animals has been planned. Art museum, Barnsdoll Park, Olive Hill, Hollywood, Calif.; Dodge City (Kas.) Historical society museum; historic cotton mill museum at Pawtucket, R. I.; San Joaquin Valley history museum, Visalia, Calif.; Dr. H. H. Charlton's museum of brains at Columbia, Mo., (the largest collection of brains of man and animals in the U. S.).

Many former homes of noted people are to be or have lately been converted into museums or memorials. Among these might be mentioned John Wesley's house in London; Darwin's home in Kent; Cervantes' birthplace at Acala De Henares, Spain; Thomas Paine's birthplace at Thedford, Eng.; the Bronte sisters home at Haworth, Eng.; Sarah Bernhardt's home at Belle Isle, France; Nathaniel Hawthorne's old New England home, "Wayside;" William Cullen Bryant's boyhood home, Cummington, Mass.; Commodore Perry's homestead at Wakefield, R. I., also his birthplace at Cresson, Pa.; the home of Henry Wilson, Grant's vice president at Natick, Mass.; Alexander Hamilton's old home, "Hamilton Grange;" the John Hancock house at Ticonderoga, N. Y.; President Buchanan's birthplace in Pennsylvania; old home of David Bushnell, the inventor and Revolutionary war officer, at Westbrooke, Conn.; the birthplace of Mme Nordica, famous singer, in Sandy River Valley, Maine.

Many markers are being or have been recently placed. The old home of Miles Standish at South Duxbury, Mass., has been marked; a granite shaft marking the discovery of gold in lode formation, was dedicated at Grass Valley, Calif.; a bronze tablet was placed on the site of Chief Joseph's surrender in

Montana; at Lawrence (Kas.) the scene of Quantrell's famous raid, a boulder with bronze tablet, was dedicated; in Hawaii, a bronze memorial plaque to the song "Aloha Oe," was dedicated.

A movement has been started to preserve Admiral Dewey's flagship, "Olympia," as a memorial; a monument has been placed at Duncan's Crossing on the historic Fort Dodge-Fort Hays trail in Kansas; the old Bartlett cabin at Bartlett Springs, a California pioneer landmark, will be preserved as a memorial museum and marked with a bronze tablet.

#### PRE-WAR and PRESENT DAY COIN PRICES AND VALUES—By Elder.

The cost of hobbies, at least coin hobbies, follows rather slowly. The writer does not believe that collector's prices have kept pace with the prices of things in many other fields, although this winter may witness some new records in the various collecting lines here in New York. As to dealers' costs, the sale catalogues which formerly cost 75 cents a page (in 1913) now cost three times that or over, while rent, telephones and other things are several times higher, not to mention quite an advance in the cost of the employment of clerks. Some rents, in fact, have tripled since 1913. The landlord tried to triple mine. That is why I moved to the second floor into a space one-third of what I formerly had, and this tiny space costs me \$1,860 per year.

Yet cataloguers are still confronted regularly with bids of \$1.75 on gold dollars, \$5 on 1856 eagle cents and \$2.55 on quarter eagles. These bids are simply an imposition and a waste of valuable time and effort both on the part of the bidder and the one to whom they are sent. True, some of our collectors are fair-minded and try to make fair estimates of value, but a few others do not, while a few seem to be bargain hunters with a capital B. Everyone realizes that nobody wants to pay a top price for anything, but only the presumptuous want to buy good things for less than half price.

A more fitting appraisal of the cataloguers' and the owners' positions are also in order. This matter also extends into the realm of the amount of commissions to be paid to the cataloguer for offering collections. A good many collectors, and several dealers, seem to think that the same old commissions which prevailed formerly for the work attendant on coin dispersal should now prevail. The cataloguer inquires, How can this be so in view of the above conditions in business and expenses? )

Twenty per cent is not nearly enough commission for selling a collection nowadays unless it be one of valuable pieces or of gold coins. Even the costs of coin photography have greatly increased. There seems to be keen competition to get these big collections. Some are bought outright and afterwards auctioned off, and so keen is this competition that one has to step lively to keep track of the offerings or be in on the deals. Even at 25 per cent a good many collections do not pay the cataloguer to handle, while "junk" at 30 per cent is not a paying consignment, although "high prices" for junk may be realized. Prices average up at auction. Some lots go cheap; others go correspondingly high. The average is generally found to be pretty satisfactory to the seller, and also to the buyer, and the highest records have been realized not at private sale but at auction. The Gutenberg Bible, which Dan Kennedy sold some years ago for Hoe at \$60,000 or thereabouts, certainly would never been sold for such a price at private sale.

Collectors should remember this is the day of the 65-cent dollar. A bid of \$1.75 on a gold dollar doesn't mean much over face value according to

1913 standards of value. The writer in his youth remembers an elegant ice-cream soda, with home-made ice-cream, purchased on the best street in his native town for the munificent price of five cents. The same ice-cream soda today costs 25 cents, and so it goes through almost the entire list of commodities and general merchandise. Bids today of 5 to 15 cents on single coins which cost from 20 to 35 cents to describe in a catalogue are humorous if not absurd, and such bidding is, of course, without result, as a rule, or else somebody takes a heavy loss—not, however, the fellow who makes such ridiculous bids.

The mighty Alexander would be a bit abashed to read of bids of \$7.50 on one of his staters; or the immortal Caesar would be surprised at bids of 75 cents on one of his denarii. Four-dollar bids on Roman aurei (with a face melting value of about \$4.50) are not uncommon. At almost every sale we see some bids of face value on gold coins.

It is well to have a saving sense of humor at all times, and 15-cent bids on fine Colonial and Continental currency, the kind Washington paid his soldiers with over 150 years ago, would seem a little too modest in view of present-day conditions. But, like the true optimist of the type suggested by Robert Browning, we have better hopes for the future and only a sense of gratitude towards those collectors who appreciate real values and show by their bidding that they are willing to live and let live. The company of this latter class could well be added to, and it would not hurt numismatics a little bit, either.—Numismatist.

#### PRICES REALIZED AT NOVEMBER 29th BOLENDER SALE

For the interest and information of my customers and bidders, I give a representative list of a few items in my last sale held November 29, with the price each sold for. All prices are per piece.

474	Numismatist Magazines, each .....	\$ .25
660	1804 cent, good, small scratches.....	9.75
1039	Pine tree shilling, about fine.....	26.00
1165	1796 quarter, ex. fine.....	23.00
1175	1827 dime, brill, proof.....	4.60
1478	B. C. 127. Syria tetradrachm, ex. fine.....	11.00
1486	1777 Mass. large ten-pound note, unc.....	8.50
1619	\$5 Kirtland note, unc.....	10.75
1782	1714 Sweden gold ducat. Chas. XII. Ex. fine.....	27.50
1791	Nevada "dollar" .....	17.75
1839	U. S. 2c Jackson encased stamp, v. good.....	9.25
1878	1883 trade dollar, proof.....	3.00

#### \$7,900 PAID FOR 1849 \$5 GOLD PIECE.

New York.—For a privately minted \$5 gold piece issued in California in 1849 the sum of \$7,900 has been paid at auction. The purchaser was a dealer acting for an unnamed collector. The coin bears on its face a shield depicting a cowboy throwing a lariat with a bear and a deer at either side.—Sent by Montgomery.

#### A TEAPOT TO JEFFERSON COLLECTION

A blue china teapot, owned in 1800 by the son of Thomas Jefferson and bequeathed with other heirlooms to the Missouri Historical Society by Miss Eunice Morgan of Florissant, Mo., has been put on display at Jefferson Memorial, the home of the society at Forest Park, St. Louis.

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

### INDIAN DOPE; ANCIENT AND OTHERWISE.—By W. Straley.

"Archaeological Wanderings in the Southwest" was the subject of an address on December 5, before the Kansas City, Mo., chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America by W. W. Postlethwaite of the Colorado college. Among the ruins described were Chaco Canon, Frijoles Canon, Puye, also the present day Pueblos of Zuni, Acoma, San Filipe and Taos. The lecture was illustrated with slides depicting many of the scenes visited.

A. H. Moffet, Larned, Kas., has an Indian relic collection of some 3,000 specimens. Recently he visited the Ozark section of Arkansas and returned with some 200 pieces to add to his collection. Among the material were axes, hoes, adzes, chisels, spear points, arrowheads and pottery.

Recently A. M. Brooking, curator of the Hastings (Neb.) museum, and George DeBord visited an Indian burial ground near that city and excavated several of the graves according to a news story in the Hastings Tribune. The opening of these graves "has brought to light many facts heretofore unknown about the Skidi band of Pawnee Indians," says the Tribune. Relics both ancient and modern were found.

Dr. W. D. Strong, professor of anthropology at the University of Nebraska, announces that that institution in connection with the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C., will at once delve into the mysteries of prehistoric man in Nebraska—in which it is hoped also to "find out the relationship of the historic plains Indians, such as the Omahas, Otoes, Pawnees and Dakotas, to the much earlier peoples who lived here in former times." The work will include a survey of the southern Missouri, Platte and Republican river valleys. It is stated that much of the work will be carried on by graduate students under Dr. Strong. Any information relative to the prehistoric discoveries in that section will be appreciated by Prof. Strong and associates.

Miss Frances Densmore, who has spent many years gathering musical data among the various tribes of Indians of the United States, has succeeded in securing a creditable collection of lyrics of the Papago Indians of Southern Arizona. The Bureau of American Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institute under whose direction Miss Densmore works, recently issued the collection in book form.

Since Lindbergh's archaeological flight over the land of the ancient Mayans, interest has been revived in the study of that interesting section and also of that prehistoric people who, at one time, dwelt there. The Kansas City (Mo.) Star's science service editor recently, speaking of the work of J. Eric Thompson of the Marshall Field archaeological expedition to British Honduras, among other things said: "While digging in a large mound in the ruins of the city (Tzimin Cax), the expedition made the first authenticated find of a mirror from a site of the old empire of the Mayan tribes, that is from the period between 400 and 800 A. D. The object consisted of small squares of iron pyrites, which apparently had made a shiny metal looking glass with a pottery back. Heretofore it has been generally supposed that the inhabitants of the early Mayan cities were unacquainted with the use of mirrors."

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN COIN ENCYCLOPEDIA

Over seventy pages of interesting reading matter about coins, including a foreign coin table, pricing of U. S. coins, etc. This is the second edition of this book and is worthy of commendation. Write the Stamp and Coin Shop at 406—15th St., Denver, Colo., for further information. See his ad.

**CALIFORNIA NOTES.—By George J. Remsburg, Porterville, Calif.**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Moore, of Pasadena, have returned from a seven months exploration in Ecuador, bringing back a remarkable collection of 3,000 bird skins and other specimens.

When the famous George A. Pope mansion, a San Francisco landmark, burned recently, a valuable collection of art objects was destroyed.

Major George D. Beaumont of Los Angeles, the man who sent by army telegraph, the historic message which ended the World War, has in his possession one of the original telegrams giving the order to cease firing and establish the armistice.

Dr. Frederick Monsen, noted anthropologist and authority on the American Indian, died in Pasadena on November 11.

A valuable saddle belonging to the late Joaquin Miller, California poet, and valued highly as a keepsake, was reported by his widow to be stolen a while back.

A museum has been started in General Grant National park.

Southern California was inhabited at least 10,000 years before Columbus discovered America, avers Malcolm J. Rogers, archaeologist at the San Diego museum.

The University of California has found that diggings on the delta of San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers did not bring to light any human relics older than 1,500 years. Ninety sites were investigated. But, unfortunately for archaeology, there were no tar pits on the delta to entrap the Adams and Eves of ancient California.

E. A. Hornbeck, of San Diego county, has a collection of firearms that he has been forty years gathering. They were recently given an illustrated writeup in Modern Mechanics.

A rattlesnake with thirty rattles and a button was killed on the ranch of Mrs. C. E. Holcomb, near Kerman last October.

H. C. Balch of Three Rivers has sent President Hoover a unique souvenir nut bowl made of redwood, a mallet and anvil of manzanita and a goblet of mountain mahogany from Sequoia National Park. Mr. Balch made the souvenirs himself.

Thousands of small fish, apparently issuing from a subterranean river under the desert have been found in a 500-foot well on the D. E. Magill ranch at Mecca. Blind fish, similar to those in the Salton sea and the Colorado river, have been found in many Coachella valley wells, but the Magill specimens are perfectly developed.

An Indian burial ground has been found on the ranch of Peter Isaac near Dos Palos.

Charles Onstat of Oxford has a letter written to his father by President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1890.

A sewing machine weighing a ton and a half, such as was used in the gold mining days for sewing canvas hose used in hydraulic mining, has been found at the old deserted mining town of Michigan Bluff and placed in the museum at Sutter's Fort.

Ray Sullivan recently unearthed at Massacre Flat, near Mariposa, a curious old pair of hand-forged leg shackles, evidently of a very early period. Massacre Flat was the scene of an early Indian massacre.

All of the worldly effects of Chief Kintpuash or Captain Jack, leader of the Modoc Indians in one of the last great Indian wars of the west, have been placed in the museum of the University of California. They include a buckskin coat,

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breech clout, stone pipe, feather headdress, clam shell beads and the gloves stolen by Captain Jack from Gen. Canby, whom he killed. They are part of a large collection of Indian and early California material presented to the university by R. W. Hanna of Richmond. The nucleus of the collection, including the Modoc War relics, was gathered by Dr. D. D. Ream, a pioneer, shortly after Captain Jack and five of his lieutenants were hanged at Fort Klamath in 1873.

Thirty-five shell mounds and an old cave occupied by an ancient tribe of Indians have been unearthed in Monterey county, California.

Mrs. Mihran Simonian of 2324 San Benito St., in Fresno, has a "doctor book" 117 years old, which she still refers to for medical information. It was written by Dr. William Buchan and published in Boston in 1813 by Joseph Bumstead. Mrs. Simonian's grandparents purchased the volume in Concord, N. H., the year it was printed and it has been in the family ever since.

When fire swept the Star and Crescent dock at the foot of Broadway in San Diego recently one of the greatest collections of sport and fishing pictures on the Pacific coast was destroyed. It was the property of Arthur W. Ponsford. The writer had seen this collection.

In a fire which destroyed his home at Woodlake recently, Courtney McCracken lost a valuable antique mahogany bedroom suite that had been handed down for several generations and came to California around the horn in a sailing vessel. There was a small amount of insurance on the house.

H. C. Wilson, principal of the Longfellow junior high school in Fresno, has obtained from the National Lumber Manufacturer's association, Washington, D. C., an interesting souvenir of historical interest in the form of a block of wood made from trusses which were removed from the roof of the White House at the time it was remodeled two years ago. The block will be preserved and kept as a permanent display at the school.

Sheriff Charles Wood of Placerville is in possession of a warrant charging assault, battery and robbery which he confesses he will never serve. For it is dated November 22, 1852. The sheriff found the yellow and aging paper as he was going through some old files of his office. John O'Toole is named as the plaintiff, while Larry Murphy is accused of being the lawbreaker. The names of the parties are beyond the memory of present day Placerville residents.

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A reader wrote: Well, old friend, I have at last drifted into the ancient man's paradise, and will give you a fine story with illustrations. Got a letter last evening from one old dealer saying that he had never heard of such a thing as stone Indian gambling sticks nor moccasin lasts. Have found a pair or set of gambling sticks and two moccasin lasts the past summer as well as mortars, pestles, rubbing stones and bread boards galore, knives, scrapers, spears, awls, stone beads, etc., besides some five hundred perfect arrowheads—all, mind you, the past summer. Most of the arrows, spears, knives, etc., are made from obsidian. When I wrote you two years ago I had not found anything to speak of. A dealer says in his list that rubbing stones are too scarce to even price in his list. And think of it, I have nearly a hundred.

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### PRESIDENT HOOVER MEDAL

The President Hoover medal has been approved and is now available to collectors at the Philadelphia mint. It is size 48, like the former presidential medals, and brings the complete set to thirty in number.—Beals.

**MORE STONE GRAVES DISCOVERED IN HARAHEY KAS.—By Zimmerman.**

Harahey was an Indian province ruled by the Chief Tatarax who went down to Quivira in 1541. This province was "the next beyond Quivira." Since it was a Caddoan Pawnee province, it was evidently at that time west of the Missouri river, and extended from the Kaw river up to the Platte river.

The stone graves which we shall describe in this paper are in Brown county, Kansas, and only a couple of miles southeast of the Nemaha river. Three had been reported, but only one was a typical stone box grave.

Mr. Edward Park, Prof. Elmer Kruger and the writer decided to make a scientific investigation of the matter and drove out to the J. M. Parker farm where a stone grave was said to be. We located the spot, but instead of a Pawnee stone grave, it was a ground-house ruin. Chips of flint and bits of pottery were in evidence, but no artifacts were found. A ground-house of this type would only last not to exceed twelve years, and if the seasons were wet the willow, elm and cottonwood frame work decayed much sooner. The Rev. John Dunbar is authority for the statement that, the Pawnee did not reside very long at a village, usually eight or ten years. He did not give any reason, but the principal one was that it was easier to move to a new site where poles were handy and build a new set of houses, because there was no way to repair a ground house when the frame work decayed and became unsafe to inhabit further. They could move out all of their household effects if they got out before the earth roof fell in. That evidently was what the Pawnee did who occupied the ground-house on the Parker farm. They moved before their roof decayed, and took everything with them.

On the Osgood-Tupain ranch in northeastern Brown county another stone grave was said to be. It proved to be a "stone pile" burial. Similar to that of the "Cow boy" who was buried on the "Lonesome prairie." Both Indians and white men practiced this mode of burial. Two small pieces of human bones were discovered showing no signs of petrification or fossilization. From this we judged that the interment did not date back any great length of time.

On the J. H. Lahmer estate in the northeastern corner of Brown county, Kansas, we found a fine specimen of stone box grave. It was the longest east and west. Seven feet long and five feet wide. In this stone box were placed two or more bodies with their heads toward the east. The skeletal material was badly decayed, but showed no fossilization. No relics of any sort were discovered, as usual. The Tallegwi who were the "original stone grave builders" in the Allegheny region and in the region south of the great lakes did not bury artifacts with the body, indicating that they were not Indians, Asiatics or Egyptians, but were a race with a different idea of immortality.

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**AGGIE COLLEGE GIVEN GEOLOGICAL RARITIES—JAPANESE MISSIONARY SENDS COLLECTION OF ORIENTAL SPECIMENS**

Fort Collins, Colo.—A rare collection of Oriental geological specimens has just been received by the agricultural college from Glen W. Bruner, a missionary at Nagasaki, Japan. Bruner was a graduate of the college here in 1917.

This unusual collection, which has been turned over to the college by Major Coffin, consists of pinewood opals which are fossils of tree leaves from the Tertiary period; specimens of lava from the 1912 eruption of Satsuma volcano in Japan, chrysoprase or green agate from Burma and Indo-China calcareous or lime-bearing sea weeds from Arie, Shimabara, Japan, technically described as lithothanium, and iron ore from Tayeh, China.—Beals.

## KANSAS NOTES.—By Geo. J. Remsburg.

Frank R. Parks of Leavenworth has a large and interesting collection of Indian relics at his jewelry store, 114 Delaware street. He gathered most of them among the Cheyenne, Arapahoe and Sioux tribes. There are several rare war bonnets of eagle feathers and other valuable pieces among them.

S. Peabody, Barrocks II, National Military Home, Leavenworth has an interesting collection of fractional currency.

The Atchison Glode recently quoted Walter Thompson of that city as saying: "My favorite hobby is browsing in second hand stores looking for rare and valuable books."

A petrified buffalo skull is reported to have been found on the farm of J. H. Harris near Madison. H. H. Rice found a partially petrified buffalo skull at Grenola. M. M. Suppes picked up a buffalo skull which had been washed from the sands of the Ninnescah river at Viola and placed it in the courthouse at Wichita. Two buffalo skulls were pumped out of a sand company's pit from a depth of nearly sixty feet at Salina recently.

Sheriff George Larson of Troy owns a small prayer book printed in 1733 and his deputy, Joseph Cordonmir, has a McGuffey's First Reader which he used when he first started to school.

Dodge City is building a new city hall on the site of the famous Boot Hill. Alf Herzer of Dalhart, Tex., sent the committee a steer's head, mounted, to be placed among other souvenirs in the town's new museum in the city hall. The head came from a steer from the famous Capitol ranch in Texas, the ranch given a group of men by the state on condition they build a state house. The steer's head needed some minor repairs and a workman began on the job. He found in the head a large pocketbook containing some jewelry and a large sum of money. Mr. Herzer does not know anything about it and all efforts to trace the owner who picked a peculiar hiding place for his valuables have failed.

The late Dr. L. N. Plummer, pioneer physician of Muscotah, was an ardent collector and his home was a veritable museum of minerals, shells, curios and relics of various kinds.

On a wall of the dining room at the home of Fred Duehren on Hickory street hangs a masterpiece in pen and ink drawn by his father, J. Fred Duehren, who was an artist. It was drawn by Mr. Duehren in 1845, and still retains its luster and detail. The subject is "Pompeian Ruins." It was drawn at the conclusion of Mr. Duehren's course as an artist. "If my house should catch on fire," says Duehren, "that picture would be the first thing I would carry to safety."—Atchison Globe.

Dr. Edward Bumgardner of Lawrence has a most interesting collection of old currency, including a ticket to the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson in 1868.

A pair of Indian ollas, burial urns of the Pithouse Indians of Arizona, recently unearthed from the streets of Nogales, Ariz., were presented the Kansas State Teachers college at Hays. The gift came from James W. Haddock, a graduate of the class of '25, who is now instructing mathematics in the high schools at Nogales.

Joe Cress of Horton is making good in California and the southwest, as a bone-hunter. His scientific title is paleontologist. He is connected with the University of California in that capacity and has done important work digging up bones of prehistoric animals all over the southwest. His latest interesting

finds have been in the Texas Panhandle. The Amarillo News-Globe recently gave him and his party a writeup. They have spent five months digging in the Panhandle and assembling a remarkably complete collection of extinct animals that roamed over that section in prehistoric times, including the three-toed horse, camel, rhinoceros, wild dog, sabre-toothed tiger, mastodon, etc.

In a Bible service held at Holton by the Methodist church, prizes were given for the oldest Bibles presented. The oldest book proved to be one printed in 1611, which has been in the Grimshaw family since it was made 318 years ago.

A complete history of the early days in McPherson city and county is to be compiled by the McPherson city library board.

The old legends of the fast disappearing Otoe Indians are being collected by Bernice G. Anderson, widely known Kansas poet and author and winner of the 1929 Kansas Author's club prize and will be published in a book she is to publish soon under the title of "Indian Sleep Man Tales."

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#### TREASURE HUNTERS ARE DESTROYING INDIAN RELICS

A large proportion of our Indian archaeological remains have been destroyed by treasure hunters and amateur archaeologists unfamiliar with scientific methods, declared Dr. F. W. Hodge, curator of the Museum of the American Indian, New York City, at the conference on midwestern archaeology in St. Louis. Probably more village sites, mounds, cemeteries and other aboriginal remains have been ruthlessly dug up than now remains to be excavated by scientific methods.

Dr. Hodge especially deplored the ignorant destruction of pottery because it happened to be broken or imperfect and the removal and sale of perfect pieces with no record of where they were found and under what circumstances.

"Pottery," he said, "is the master key, above everything else made by primitive man, to the determination of multiple occupancy through stratification, and by its usual fragile character it commonly did not find its way very far from the place of manufacture. It stands to reason, therefore, that it is of the greatest importance that careful note be made of the conditions attending the finding of every example."

Aboriginal mounds and burial places are also important memorials of America's earliest history, yet these are constantly being destroyed.

"Yesterday we heard of one individual," said Dr. Hodge, "with purely sordid interests, rifling every Indian grave he can find within motoring reach of his home in Western Pennsylvania; and today word comes of a farmer in Scott county, Kansas, who has leveled the ruins of the only Pueblo Indian settlement in his state."—K. C. Star.

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George Hosfeld, Minnesota, writes: This summer while down in southern Minnesota we found a very rare object from this state. It was a stone effigy or God as used by ancient Indians. It is at present at the Minnesota Historical society. Being he had never seen one from this state I loaned it to him. He is quite an authority on Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Wisconsin relics. He believes he has every celluloid button issued by United States government for Liberty Loans, War Saving, Red Cross, War Camp, etc. Sure is a very pretty collection. He has all his relics (Indian relics) mounted in frames at present. Used some of the ideas from the West. He sure wishes everyone of West subscribers have had as much luck with their ad as he had with his and has been interested in West news items as he has.

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### KANSAN HAS COLLECTION OF 5,000 BUTTERFLIES

When Gottlob Meeh of Marysville, Kas., caught a butterfly thirty years ago one morning as he stood at the rear of a local bakery where he was employed he did not realize that he had commenced a hobby which would result in his collection of over five thousand of the insects, representing fifteen hundred species.

From the one mounted butterfly which he still has today he added to his collection until he has nearly two dozen cases of the mounted insects. Every butterfly is labeled and classified as to size.

The majority of his butterflies have been captured in Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma, although the collection represents native insects of over a dozen states and several foreign countries.

Although he has collected his own specimens in this country he has had to rely on correspondence in order to complete his foreign collections. Several of the butterflies which he has on display have come from India.

He has not confined all of his energies to the mounting of butterflies, but also has gathered bugs for the past twenty-five years. At the present time he has a collection which numbers more than two thousand.

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### PONY EXPRESS RIDER GONE—By F. G. Carnes

Boise, Idaho.—Thomas Ranahan died Monday morning at a local hospital and Idaho lost one of its few remaining links with its colorful past—the past of Pony Express, stagecoach, bullion to sustain a nation in civil war, and all the foundings of new civilization in the west. Age 87, old Mr. Ranahan was the last survivor but one, Mr. Henry (Rube) Dunn of Blackfoot, of the old Holliday Stage express line. He was one of the small, scattered band of men, who as boys went thru the Beecher's Island massacre in eastern Colorado and survived a dozen equally desperate encounters with Indians in the 60's and 70's. He was born in Ireland and came to America at the age of two. He spent most of his life in the west as a pony express rider and stage coach driver. He was also a scout for the noted "Buffalo Bill" Cody, in Wyoming.

Mr. Dunn states that he (now 89) is the only survivor of 750 men originally employed by the Ben Holliday Stage Line. He has been in bed since last September but enjoys relating stories of his life to his many friends. By all means a history of his life should be preserved for its historical importance.

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### CANADIAN COMMUNION TOKENS

L. Laupen says metal sacramental tokens were used in the different Presbyterian churches in Canada. The first tokens were used in Truro, Nova Scotia in the year 1772. The Rev. Daniel Cock was the first minister. Years have passed since the disuse of the old metal tokens, and the adoption of the card, and to many Presbyterians of today the token is quite unknown. The result has been that when a collection of the character of this one was undertaken (it was commenced a good many years ago) specimens of many of the rarer tokens were only obtained after long search, persistent correspondence and a liberal outlay of cash. There were 245 churches in Canada that used the metallic token.

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Finds an Old Penny—Arch Wilson, Smith Center, made a remarkable find while digging in the bottom of a 6-foot sewer ditch in the city recently, when he came across a penny of date 1872. On one side was a picture of Abraham Lincoln.

Metates, manos, mauls, hammers, sledge-heads and all large stones found at Gallagher were of the crudest types. Many of the arrowheads were but half finished, others were completed, but childishly crude. The majority were of the most skilled workmanship. Some of the obsidian heads at once suggest Aztec craftsmanship and Mexican rock quarries. Is it not possible these people found great numbers of arrowheads in game killed—heads shot by far-off people—then threw them out along with the bones and other refuse? The Indians are known to have been prejudiced against the use of artifacts, belonging to others.

Half of a long, slim, blue, agate knife-blade was found at McDermott. Later a boy found the other half at Gallagher. The jagged break disappears when the pieces are put together. More than one hundred spindle-whorls of hard rocks were taken. Very few were found at the first site. Many pestles, four or five mortars, round stones for gaming, shapeless clumps of hardened pottery paste, one abalone shell and one slate gorget, thousands of Bloomfield quartzite worn chunks certainly suggestive of whet-stones, mussel-shell scrapers, skinning tools, polishing stones, ornamental stones, pot smoothers, a few clumsy spear-heads, stone knives and scrapers, tomahawk heads, axe and celt heads, fetish stones, ceremonial pieces, lightening stones, quartz nuggets, thought to have been shaped for placing with the dead, unknown tools of stone and many shapes of bone are some of the relics that have been found at the Gallagher location. Bucketfuls of chert end-scrapers, thought to have been brought from Missouri were found both at Gallagher and McDermott.

The lightning stones were used by night. Each Indian held one in each hand, the while briskly rubbing them together which resulted in an incandescent glow or a display of "sparks." These flashes of fire represented flashes of lightning. Thunder was simulated by hearty wallops on a tom-tom by some favored brave.

A very interesting and puzzling phase of the arrowhead finds at Gallagher is the almost total lack of large-size heads such as would bring down a buffalo. Some Indian village sites yield those of two or three inches entirely. Thousands of arrowheads from one inch in length down to the size of one's little finger nail occur of every material available in the surrounding states' quarries. It may be that small game—prairie chickens, ducks and the like—were in such abundance at the time that these ancients subsisted almost entirely on them. Their flavor may have been more to their liking than the larger game. And if they lived in pre-Columbian times they were without horses and had to stalk the buffalo and his cousins by disguising in the skins of the wolf or antelope, and the grief of this mode of attack can be imagined by anyone familiar with the beds of sandburrs and cacti in this territory.

The finely shaped arrowpoints of quartz and obsidian, as hard and brittle as window glass, draw exclamations of wonderment from all who see them. Rock that always has lain in water is comparatively easy to chip or work. The ancients knew this, and always obtained their raw materials from some water-soaked ledge, usually along some stream bank. After shaping into arrowpoints or the like, the artifacts were left in the sun and air and in time they hardened to degrees of temper in which we find them today.—Boston Transcript.

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**SECOND INDIAN CITY LOCATED IN NEBRASKA—SKILLED PREHISTORIC STONE-CHIPPING VARIED POLEHEADS AND ARROWHEADS**

By J. B. O'Sullivan.

Ruins of the second of the three lost ancient Indian cities recently discovered near O'Niell, Neb., are two miles east and one the north bank of the Elkhorn river. These lie on the estate of the late Michael Gallagher. The lost city is known to be but a quarter mile in length by about the same in width. The west end is bounded by a dense growth of cottonwood trees. Artifacts in small numbers are picked up at many spots between this place and McDermotts. Nothing but a few arrowheads ever had been recovered from Gallagher until one year ago.

As at McDermott, violent winds, aided by heavy water erosion, has removed several feet of top soil from the cornfields on this ruins and the enormous number of rock material artifacts found lying about in the open was astonishing and told of dense population and long occupancy by the ancients.

One unexplained phase of the finds is the great number of arrowheads of snow-white agatized wood. Not a flake of this substance was noted at McDermott. Another puzzling fact is that not a trace of burials nor firerocks was encountered at the Gallagher ruins. Singular indeed when it is recalled how plentiful they were at McDermott, and the amount of soil removed by erosion at Gallagher. Some shell fragments greatly resembling pieces of rotted grave beads left the matter of burials at Gallagher an unanswered question.

Flakes, or chips of chert, agate, quartz, jasper, obsidian, chalcedony, cobalt, granite, slate or sandstone, strewn about McDarmott like the petrified flakes of a snowstorm, are absolutely lacking at Gallagher City. This is very noticeable since the only native stone consists of a dull brown gravel and the contrast between it and the Indian imported stone is striking. That the Indians imported tons and tons of this rock material by back or dog travels in pre-Columbian times, across hundreds of miles of bristling enemy country, seems amazing. And they say Indians were lazy!

The potsherds of Gallagher and McDermott show no variation. The paste seems to be of clay, wood-ashes, fine crystal quartz pebbles and mica. The decorations are incised, stamped, relief, pinched and basket. The basket ware was made by fashioning a basket of small willow twigs, or coarse grass-stems, plastering the paste on the inside, sun-curing, slipping in acher-wash, then firing a few minutes. The basket burned away, but left criss-cross designs on the outer side. The pottery shows absolutely no outside influence in shapes nor designs. When first found by the whites, the Pawnees were at war with tribes on every side. And the ancients who resided on the upper Elkhorn, according to the artifacts found, must have been of Caddoan stock and therefore Pawnee.

Some skilled stone chipper seems to have inticipated the modern tea-spoon. Well shaped brown agate pieces were found which would serve very well for tea-sipping. Two large fragments of virgin gold-bearing rocks, apparently carved as for ceremonial pieces, cause one to wonder if, after all, the Spanish Panalosa Expeditions to the Seven Cities of Cibola, in the Land of Quivera, expeditions in search of traditional cities thought to have been constructed of silver and gold, and precious gem materials, had a few shreds of fact on which to base their exhausting excursions that frequently cost them their lives. It would be interesting to know if a few such mineral rocks containing a few dollars' worth of gold were the basis of the exaggerated conceptions of easy wealth that made the Spaniards more savage than the wild pawnee.

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**DAVY CROCKETT'S RIFLE WHICH FELL FROM HIS HANDS IN THE SACRED ALAMO, STILL IN TEXAS—By F. G. Carnes.**

David Crockett's old flint-lock squirrel rifle, now altered into a percussion lock field piece, is owned by Capt. J. S. Taylor of Bermuda, Demmitt county.

"A Texan never asks another Texan where he got a thing," Capt. Taylor remarks when one questions him regarding the history of the gun. Here's the gun with Davy Crockett's likeness etched upon the face plate, and here is a letter giving its history.

This gun, which fell from the hands of Crockett when the defenders of the immortal Alamo were massacred, was recovered many years later in Demmitt county following the capture and rescue from a band of Mexicans, by Sheriff Gene Buck, more than 10 years ago.

All arms and ammunition left in the Alamo when it was captured were taken by the victorious Mexican Army, this gun along with the others. In the battle which ensued between deputy sheriffs and the Mexican band which had kidnaped Sheriff Buck this gun was carried by one of the Mexicans who was killed. It was later picked up by another Mexican, a resident of Demmitt county, who later sold it to Deputy Sheriff Jake Bell, who led the Buck rescue party, who in turn, sold it to Capt. Taylor, the present owner.

Another version of the gun's history, none the less romantic, is revealed in a letter Capt. Taylor has, written in 1910 by W. H. Barnett at Braddus, Ga., to Judge John W. Crockett of Little Rock, Ark., in which Barnett says he bought the field piece from a son of Wade Hall in January 1860. Hall and Cockett were inseparable companions and owned guns of similar make back in Montgomery County, Alabama, with which they hunted constantly.

During the Civil war while Barnett was at the front, the gun was sold by Barnett's wife to a Mr. Whitton. After Whitton's death, Barnett again bought the gun. In 1886 the gun had become so rusted at each end of the barrel that Barnett cut off the ends and changed the gun from flint-lock to percussion lock, half-stock of American black walnut, replaced with silver trimmings, tallow box, as they were before.

The Crockett gun that Capt. Taylor has, is inlaid with a silver plate on the barrel bearing this inscription, "Presented to David Crockett at Nashville, Tenn., May 5, 1822, by Jas. M. Graham."

A brass plate on the stock bears an etched likeness of Colonel Crockett, while the brass tallow box at the butt of the stock was used to hold the molded bullets. Silver half moons and stars adorn the stock toward the barrel and lock. Capt. Taylor also has the bullet mold, powder horn and leather pouch with shoulder strap which is part of Col. Crockett's equipment. The rifle, more than a hundred years old, is in excellent condition and is well cared for, as it is a most priceless relic.

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**BIBLE OF 1737**

Mrs. George Theobald of Wauneta, Neb., is the possessor of a Bible translated by Martin Luther and compiled in 1737. The tome has been in the possession of Mrs. Theobald's family for 194 years. It is made of parchment and is bound with wood and leather. It is in an excellent state of preservation. Brass bands protect the covers which bear the marks of heavy rings that once hooked the Bible to the pulpit of some old church.

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**KING ARTHUR'S COINS**

Collectors of old English coins will be interested in the remarkable finds made recently by R. Wheeler, the director of the London Museum at Lydney Park, Lord Bledisloe's Gloucestershire seat and the site of an ancient Roman encampment.

The money was found embedded in the broken debris of a mosaic floor in the "frigidarium" or cool room of what would today be termed a Turkish bath. It consists of a hoard of 1,240 Lilliputian coins, belonging to the dark period which immediately followed the departure of the Romans from this country about 410 A. D.

The coins, which are only a fraction of the size of 1-cent pieces, are copies in miniature of Roman coins. Mixed with them were a few clippings of late fourth century Roman coins.

The misty years following the end of the Roman dominion in Britain seem inevitably associated with the romances of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, of Merlin and the quest of the Holy Grail. It is suggested once more that Arthur may actually have been an historical character, a British prince who sought to maintain the traditions of civilized Rome and the Christian faith against the Saxon pagans; that the little coins scarcely bigger than pins' heads may have been King Arthur's currency.

The excavations at Lydney, I may add, epitomize 600 years of early English history. There are early British fortifications, dating from 100 B. C., iron mines worked by the Romans until the end of the third century A. D., a Roman house built round a courtyard paved in mosaic with red, blue and white marble and a wonderful set of Roman baths.—Christian Science Monitor.

**A VERSATILE COLLECTOR.—By Nell Lounsberry.**

Vernon Lemley of Osborne, Kansas, well deserves the title of America's most versatile collector, for he admits that he has collected everything he ever heard of another collecting, and what is more, he goes about it enthusiastically and does a good job.

His collecting career began, when as a lad of twelve, a friend gave him a few foreign stamps. With that for a start, Mr. Lemley proceeded to collect 13,000 more—all different. Then came coins and bills, thousands of them, from B. C. to the present time. From this he drifted into guns and weapons of every conceivable type, buttons, post cards, sea shells and cigar bands.

Eventually the far horizons began to look attractive to the young cowboy, who fortunately could combine his longing to roam with his unconquerable passion to collect. His first journey led him to the wilds of the Ozarks, where he secured many stone relics—now having 10,000 specimens from this period of man's evolution. He next delved into the fossil beds, excavating for the remains of mastodons and dinosaurs which roamed the jungles of the midwest millions of years ago.

A great portion of his excellent relic collection was secured while living among the Sioux of South Dakota; the Utes of Colorado and the Poncas and Pawnee of Oklahoma. When one first sees Mr. Lemley's Indian goods, it appears as though he must have a sample of nearly all the objects ever conceived by a Redman, from Navajo rings and bracelets of pure silver, to buckskin war shirts with human hair locks. There are pipes, pottery, beaded vests and war bonnets; baskets, blankets and beadwork, besides gem bird points of all colors and materials from nearly every state in the union.

Mr. Lemley has always been greatly interested in photos of notorious Western characters, and now has over 1,000 of these, including pictures of outlaws, pioneers, scouts, forts, etc. He also has many autographed letters from Indian Chiefs, books on old historical subjects and many oil paintings of cowboys and frontier life. His medal collection comprises many rare and hard to obtain specimens, some dating back to 1500; many others having been originally presented to Indian war heroes and Texas rangers.

His Alaska collection alone is well deserving of note, containing ivory arrows, horse hair ropes, tomahawks, bone fish hooks, totem poles, birch bark canoes, obsidian axes, ivory tusks, etc. The Orient too, is well represented with idols, buddahs, carved ivory and sandalwood, a rare heart lance which was picked up on an old Japanese battleground, besides pipes and weapons from the Filipino head hunters. From South and Central America he has gathered many stone-age relics and other curios of more modern origin, the most colorful specimens in this department being the miniature woven hair work from Mexico, the tiny hats and baskets all having marvelous patterns worked out in brightly dyed horse hair.

When I asked what had given him the most pleasure to collect, Mr. Lemley replied: "It doesn't really matter what one collects, whether it be trade marks, gum wrappers or Stradivarius, there is always the same thrill in finding a new one for your collection and the pleasure of showing it to interested fellow collectors. However, if you mean what are my favorite specimens of all the collection, they are my two saddle horses. 'Once a cowboy, always a cowboy,' you know. If I had the time and money and a place to keep them, I would collect fine horses the same as I have collected other objects of art, for I value a horse above everything else."

In closing the interview, Mr. Lemley extended an invitation to all collectors to visit him at his private museum in Osborne, where he is always glad to "talk hobbies." I am sure everyone who avail themselves of the opportunity will be treated with true, western hospitality and will leave with new ideas of what one may collect and derive pleasure from so doing.

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**JUST A REMINDER.—By H. A. L.**

Having been a collector of antiques and modern firearms for over 35 years I find that there is quite a number of people who do not describe a piece when writing about it to a prospective buyer as they should. There is no doubt that people unacquainted with firearms shouldn't be expected to know very much about them, but when wanting to sell them could give a reasonably fair description of same with price wanted, which would save a lot of corresponding. Firearms, like everything else, are valued as to their scarcity and condition.

If a person has any firearms to sell they should give a very complete description as to all marks and lettering and condition of piece, and also a sketch or drawing if possible, and in this way could make the matter clear to the prospective buyer and might be the means of making a sale.

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The memory of the Nebraska pioneers is being cherished. Willa Cather, Bess Streeter Aldrich, Keene Abbott and others have been doing the praise of the pioneers in words of interest and beauty, and now Omaha citizens are commissioning Gutzom Borglum the sculptor to perpetuate them in permanent material. And the fields, the towns, in fact, all Nebraska, is their monument too.—Tribune.

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

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George Remsburg of Porterville, Calif., is fortunate enough to have spent nearly his entire lifetime at occupations connected with his chosen hobby, Kansas archaeology. Probably no man living is as familiar with Kansas history, for Mr. Remsburg spent thirty-five years seeking old books on the state and by early Kansas authors. Upon leaving there, twelve years ago he disposed of this immense collection of valuable literature, which is now in the Museum of the Kansas Historical Society.

During the many years he has spent in archaeological research work, he has opened a number of Indian mounds, has identified and explored old village sites of Indians on the Missouri river, which were visited by De Bourgmont in 1724 and the Lewis and Clark expedition in 1804. He has also examined nearly a hundred other ancient villages, camps, workshops and grave sites; has thoroughly explored the Kickapoo Indian towns at Fort Leavenworth and visited these Indians many times on the reservation, to gather historical matter relating to the tribe.

In the forty-odd years spent at this interesting hobby, he has gathered one of the finest collections of Kansas archaeological specimens in existence.

Mr. Remsburg is a member of many Historical Societies over the middle west, but the greatest honor bestowed upon him in appreciation of his work was election to membership in the National Geographic Society at Washington, D. C., in 1911.—Sports and Hobbies. See cut.

In October West is an article that I take exception to. As you know I have been a collector for a good many years, of things old, funny and sometimes valuable, and knowing that I have followed the art persuasively for a livelihood for years am pretty much able to distinguish the difference from an old original and a later counterfeit. And that's that.

In this article, Horton (Kas) Headlight says L. N. Flint, head of the department of journalism of the Uni. of Kan. says that out of possibly 300 copies printed of the Ulster County Gazette there is no known copies, and the paper says no one is going to stop anyone from thinking that he has one but he "ain't." Now what, how come, etc., are these wise heads to tell an original from a counterfeit if they never saw an original, and how can a man arise and say that something is impossible. A man of years who has seen some of the world and thought a little knows that nothing is impossible. He also says that the original has no poem nor photo. How does he know if he never saw a copy? The original has a double column poem on page three but no cuts of any kind. Top, bottom and two outsides have hastily made rough wood strips to emphasize mourning. The front page has "Ulster County Gazette, published at Kingston, by Samuel Freer and Son, January 4, 1800, Vol. 11, No. 88." No. state given. I also have "The New York Herald, Whole Number 10,458, dated April 17, 1865," containing the particulars of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, which of course are additional details of the Friday night affair. The rules on all pages of this issue are up-side-down to show mourning. Also have June 19, 1861, and May 29, 1861, of the Prescott (Wis.) Journal as well as The Illustrated London News dated Saturday, June 27, 1863.—Pierce Burns, Ong.

H. Lamber Says: I have a copy of Mr. Saterlee's (Detroit) Firearms book and it is a book that every firearms collector should have. It is a most wonderful book. Illustrated and every collector should thank Mr. Saterlee for publishing same.

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

### A NEW LINCOLN PLAQUE

A plaque with a fine portrait of Lincoln has been issued by Dr. A. M. Rackus and Ernest Jonas, two members of the Chicago Coin Club, in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the issue of the Lincoln cent and the fifth year of the death of Victor D. Brenner, the designer of the coin.



is the name "Lincoln." (There will be no more struck.) See ad of Jonas.

### DEPOSITS RARE BOOK

In response to a request from the librarian of the congressional library at Washington, D. C., Mrs. B. G. Miller of Crete, Neb., has forwarded to the library there her copy of the *Christian Palladium*.

The book, published in February, 1845, at Union Mills, N. Y., is one of three known copies. It was published by the editors, Rev. Jasper Hazen, John Ross and Oliver Barr. Mrs. Miller inherited her copy from Hazen, who was the son of a Revolutionary soldier. One of the other known copies is owned by the Antiquarian society of Worcester, N. Y., and the third is in the Theological school at Meadville, Pa., which was organized the year before the book was published.

A gentleman of Portis, Kas., has found a penny which he insists bears the date 1812 and a picture of Abraham Lincoln. As an archeological find it vies with that of the Roman coin certain newspapers maintained bore the date 92 B. C., believes the Great Bend Tribune.

### INDIAN LORE; ANCIENT AND OTHERWISE—By W. Straley.

An explorer in Yucatan protests that the Mayan ruins believed to have been discovered by Lindbergh recently were actually sighted by scouting scientists in 1921. However, Colonel Lindbergh won't mind. The existence of Paris was suspected before the colonel "discovered" it in 1927, too, but that didn't dim the glory of the event.—"Starbeams," K. C. (Mo.) Star.

Those interested in American archaeology should read "A Prehistoric Pit House Village Site On the Columbia River at Wahluke, Grant County, Washington," by Herbert W. Krieger. This is Paper No. 2732, Vol. 73, Art. 11, from *Proceedings of the United States National Museum*.

A recent item in the daily press states: Fr. Adrian Gabriel Morice, now living in Winnipeg and in his seventieth year, is at work on what he calls "the greatest work of my life." It is a huge dictionary and grammar of the dialects of the Indian tribes along the Pacific coast. Like Thomas Carlyle, who lost his only copy of "The French Revolution" when a servant girl started a

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

fire with the manuscript, the Canadian historian also suffered a great loss by fire. Fr. Morice prepared an Indian-English dictionary some years ago which took thirteen years to complete, and his only copy was destroyed in a fire at Duck Lake, Sask.

"Archaeological and Historical Investigations Samane, Dominican Republic," by Herbert W. Krieger. United States National Museum Bulletin 147 (Price 40 cents). The ninety-odd pages of this pamphlet is brimful of interesting history and archaeological date concerning the little known tribes of this island. Some 27 plates illustrate the text.

The K. C. (Mo.) Star's correspondent at Bow, Neb., sends in the following interesting item, under date of October 24: "An arrow head found in the bones of a bison which was recently uncovered in Custer county is being used by geologists as partial proof that Nebraska was inhabited 100,000 years ago. The tiny weapon was found during the summer by C. B. Schultz, graduate geologist at the University of Nebraska and is being examined by E. E. Blackman and other experts at the state university. The find is said to be ~~one~~ <sup>one</sup> of the finest flints discovered in this part of the state. Conclusions cannot be definitely drawn until it is determined when the arrow was made and when it was shot into the buffalo. The bones of the animal are sixteen feet beneath the surface of the ground and Schultz is certain that at one time they were far deeper than that. This would indicate, he says, that thousands of years have elapsed since the bison was shot."

A pair of Indian ollas, burial urns of the Pithouse Indians of Arizona, recently unearthed from the streets of Nogales, Ariz., were presented the Kansas State Teachers college, Hays, Kansas. The gift came from James W. Haddock, a graduate of the class of '25, who is now instructing mathematics in the high schools at Nogales.

This winter the members of the Kansas City chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America will be favored with four lectures. Prof. Ralph Van Deman Magoffin will present "Recent Archaeological Discoveries of the Glories of the Past," W. W. Postlethwaite follows a month later with "Archaeological Wanderings in the Southwest." Prof. Louis E. Lord of Oberlin will lecture on recent archaeological work. Dr. Carl E. Guthe, University of Michigan, will close the series with "The Hidden Story of the American Indian.

George Miles, a 100-year-old Tonkawa Indian, died the early part of November near Tonkawa, Okla.

Press dispatches report the rescue of a 7-year-old Indian girl from her superstitious tribesmen near Zozongatha, Mexico. The police of the aforementioned city made the rescue just as the victim was about to be hacked to pieces, an offering to the God of Water on account of the extended drouth in that section.

### PETERS, NEB., SCENE OF HUNT FOR FOSSILS

Prof. C. H. Falkenbach of the American Museum of Natural history at New York is here with a crew of men and a tractor to uncover some of the numerous fossils and skeletons of prehistoric animals which are buried in the hills near Peters, Neb. Although this field has never been noted for such findings, Professor Falkenbach believes it better than any other in western Nebraska. Over thirty years ago representatives of the same museum uncovered an almost complete skeleton of a large mastodon. The professor feels certain he will make some very valuable findings here.

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**V. C.'S CAST FROM GUN METAL—EACH VICTORIA CROSS A LINK WITH CRIMEAN WAR.**

Every Victoria Cross, no matter in what war and in what part of the world it is won, is a link with the Crimea. For each of the bronze medals "for valor" is cast from guns captured by Great Britain during the Crimean war. The war office keeps a supply of this raw material, and when a V. C. is awarded it sends along the order for the cross, together with a piece of Crimean bronze, to the firm which makes the decorations. Each cross is cast separately, the design and the famous legend "For Valor" being added afterward.

Originally, only white troops could win the V. C., but since 1911 it has been open to Indian soldiers also; and since 1920 to women or, in certain circumstances, to civilians.

There is only one foreign V. C.—T. Dinieson, of Copenhagen; and only one in which the coveted cross has not been awarded for some definite exploit, is the V. C. laid on the war memorial at Washington on Armistice day years ago and dedicated to the American Unknown Soldier.

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**FIND NEBRASKA FOSSILS.**

The seepage lake southwest of Gering, Neb., is being drained by construction of a ditch, in the process of which work blasting is being done. Among others at work on the job the other day, R. M. Thomassen and Noble Stewart found in the material at a depth of about twelve feet a huge prehistoric turtle which would have been had it remained intact, fully twelve to fourteen inches across. Remains of others were also found, but most of them shattered to finer bits. Fossils of this and other types are found all over this general section, the most prolific field in this vicinity having been the bad lands region at the foot of Scotts Bluff mountain, where they are often found outcropping in the banks of canyons. Fossils are often found also in the digging of wells at even greater depths.

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**NOT GENERALLY KNOWN**

Dig in your pocket and see if you have a silver dollar of 1928. Now step into your bank and ask for one. Don't be surprised—that coin is going down in history of numismatics as a comparatively rare one. The reason is that the treasury department did not distribute any. The coins were made all right but were held in the mint and released only for special occasions such as cornerstone layings and for museum pieces.—Roesler Stamp News.

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**DR. PARKER URGES COLLECTING**

Parents and children alike were advised to cultivate the hobby of collecting by Dr. Arthur C. Parker, director of the Rochester Municipal Museum and a member of the A. N. A. At a recent father-and-son dinner Dr. Parker said: "If you are a collector you can talk with celebrities, with persons distinguished along various lines, all classes of people. Collect coins, stamps, anything you like—but collect something."—Numismatist.

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**OWNS A ½-DOLLAR BILL**

E. M. Weddle, Lindsborg, Kas., hotel owner and collector, values most a ½-dollar bill, issued in North Carolina by authority of congress April 2, 1776, three months before the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He received it from his father, a Civil War veteran. Mr. Weddle has been unable to find a duplicate.

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Wanted to exchange kit of parts for  
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uine old Indian relics.—L. W. Dudgeon,  
Cane Valley, Ky.

Prehistoric Rubbing Stones and Mor-  
tars to exchange for Arrows, Spears and  
Axes.—A. H. Witte, Box 146, Henrietta,  
Texas.

Wanted coins, Indian relics, antiques;  
lowest prices wholesale, retail.—Dalton,  
Willsville, Ohio.

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nia.—Dellquest's Rare Book Shop, 1804 W.  
7th, Los Angeles, California.

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Apr - July 1930

Volume 88 Number 3  
Published Quarterly from  
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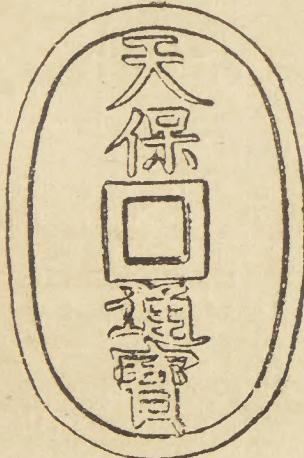
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70 1kr500/2s .....	1.25	1.00				164 15 ore .....	.07	.06
71 2kr/2s .....	1.50	1.10	112 10 ore .....	.06	.01	165 20 ore .....	.10	.02
			1922-24					
1906 Wmkd. Post Horn			114 20 ore .....	.14	.01		a. Error "1302"	3.60
72 300/7s .....	.20	.10	115 25 ore .....	.15	.02			
1907			117 45 ore .....	.25	.04	166 30 ore .....	.14	.07
73 30 ore .....	.25	.02						
			1925 North Pole Issue			1929 Unwmkd.		
1907 Die A			120 2 ore .....	.03	.03	167 140/2s .....	.11	.11
74 1kr .....	.90	.40	121 3 ore .....	.05	.05			
75 1kr500 .....	1.45	1.00	122 5 ore .....	.06	.06	1929 Wmkd. Post Horn		
76 2kr .....	1.65	.85	123 10 ore .....	.11	.11	168 7 ore .....	.03	.01
			124 15 ore .....	.16	.16	169 14 ore .....	.6	.03
			125 20 ore .....	.20	.20			
1908			126 25 ore .....	.17	.17	1930 Saint Olaf Issue		
77 150/4s .....	.12	.05				170 10 ore .....	.04	.03
78 15 ore .....	.13	.02	1925 Spitzbergen Issue			171 15 ore .....	.06	.06
			127 10 ore .....	.07	.04	172 20 ore .....	.08	.05
1909-10 Die B			128 15 ore .....	.12	.04	173 30 ore .....	.12	.08
79 1kr .....	3.50	2.00	129 20 ore .....	.17	.02			
No. 79 off center			130 45 ore .....	.30	.16	POSTAGE DUE STAMPS		
80 1kr500 .....	6.25	6.00				1889-1920 Wmkd. Post Horn		
81 2kr .....	165	.12	1926-27 Lion Type			201 1 ore .....	.02	.01
			133 10 ore .....	.04	.01	202 4 ore .....	.04	.02
1909-11 Re-engraved			134 15 ore .....	.06	.01	203 10 ore .....	.08	.02
82 1 ore .....	.01	.01	135 20 ore .....	.10	.01	204 20 ore .....	.12	.02
83 2 ore .....	.01	.01	136 25 ore .....	.13	.03	205 50 ore .....	.22	.05
84 3 ore .....	.02	.01	137 35 ore .....	.14	.01			
85 5 ore .....	.03	.01	138 40 ore .....	.22	.02	1914		
86 10 ore .....	.06	.01	139 50 ore .....	.20	.20			
87 15 ore .....	.10	.01	140 60 ore .....	.24	.01	207 15 ore .....	.07	.02
88 20 ore .....	.10	.01				1921-23		
89 25 ore .....	.20	.01	1927			210 4 ore .....	.03	.03
90 30 ore .....	.15	.01	142 30 ore .....	.15	.03	211 10 ore .....	.05	.03
91 50 ore .....	.25	.01	143 300/450 .....	.15	.03	212 20 ore .....	.10	.05
92 60 ore .....	.28	.01	144 300/450 .....	.18	.15	213 40 ore .....	.18	.03
						215 100 ore .....	.50	.20
1910-18 Die C			1927-28			216 200 ore .....	.90	.40
93 1kr .....	.40	.01	145 20 ore .....	.08	.01			
94 1kr500 .....	.60	.02	146 25 ore .....	.10	.02	OFFICIAL STAMPS		
95 2kr .....	.80	.02	147 30 ore .....	.12	.01	1925 Wmkd. Post Horn		
96 5kr .....	1.90	.15	148 40 ore .....	.16	.16			
			1928			401 5 ore .....	.02	.02
1914 Constitution Issue			149 200/250 .....	.10	.03	402 10 ore .....	.04	.02
97 5 ore .....	.04	.03				403 15 ore .....	.06	.04
98 10 ore .....	.07	.03	1928 Henrik Ibsen Issue			404 20 ore .....	.08	.01
99 20 ore .....	.15	.11	150 10 ore .....	.05	.03	405 30 ore .....	.12	.10
			151 15 ore .....	.07	.06	406 40 ore .....	.16	.02
1917-20			152 20 ore .....	.10	.02	407 60 ore .....	.24	.06
100 12 ore .....	.06	.02	153 30 ore .....	.14	.07			
101 15 ore .....	.07	.01				1929		
102 35 ore .....	.17	.01	1929 Overprints			408 20/50 .....	.02	.02
103 40 ore .....	.30	.01	154 1 ore .....	.03	.03			
			155 4 ore .....	.04	.03	AIR POST STAMPS		
1921-22			156 10 ore .....	.07	.04	1927 Wmkd. Post Horn		
104 5 ore .....	.02	.01	157 15 ore .....	.12	.10	501 45 ore .....	.18	.15
105 10 ore .....	.12	.01	158 20 ore .....	.12	.03			
106 20 ore .....	.12	.01	159 40 ore .....	.20	.06	PACKETS		
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VOLUME 88

APRIL TO JULY, 1930

NUMBER 3

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Watson, Australia says the results of my X Ad more than exceeded my expectations. See ad.

Bluestone issued Salt City Coin book. Most handy size. Worth getting.

Flackerd, Minneapolis. West is best I have ever seen for collectors and last number I read three times through. Got many dozen orders to my ads.

Christopher issues check list of books and first editions. Pay to get. See ads.

T. Young, N. Y. Ad orders always come pouring in the mail soon as new issue of West is out.

Grossman, N. Y., issues one of finest wholesale lists seen for this country.

Dr. Hartman, Monaco. West has quite something fascinating about it and its multivariated contents. Think your excellent journal should become more known all over Europe.

Applegate, Oregon, gets out catalog for state revenues excise stamps.

Kline, Mo. My ad cleaned me out. No longer answer inquiries.

A. Wilson has published Charm of Stamp Collecting book. You should get it.

Pay to take in next S. P. A. convention held at Worcester, Mass., beginning August 7th.

Smith, Ely, Nevada, says finds West best ad medium and sold many of his goods.

A. N. A. Coin society meets in Buffalo, N. Y., August 23 to 28. Hold exhibition worth seeing and you should make arrangements to be present if you collect.

**EASY MONEY—By R. J. A. Widmar, Breckenridge, Col.**

The U. S. Post Office Department, through its Philatelic Agency in Washington, D. C., sold \$283,983 worth of stamps to collectors during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1929.

Virtually all of that money is "velvet" to the department as but few of those stamps will ever be used to pay postage. The "velvet" tasted so good to the department that it has issued three new "Graf Zeppelin stamps" of the denominations of 65 cents, \$1.30 and \$2.60 for the aleged use of paying postage on letters and cards to be carried on the "Graf Zeppelin" airship on its round trip from Friedrichshafen, Germany, to Lakehurst, N. J., on the airships "First Europe-Pan America round-trip flight, to be made early in May," "Via Seville—Pernambuco—Rio-de-Janiero—Pernambuco" to Lakehusst, N. J., and return to Friedrichshafen, Germany.

The stamps are issued in quantity of one million stamps of each denomination. The sucker stamp collectors (for whose benefit apparently the issue is intended) are invited to purchase the stamps from one or more post offices in each state or from the "Philatelic Agency" of Washington, D. C. (enclosing postage and registry fee in addition to amount sent for stamps) before June 30th, etc., unsold stamps are to be recalled to Washington and destroyed; the plates from which the stamps are printed are to be destroyed as soon as the millions of stamps have been printed.

To make the stamps more desirable, for an additional \$2 (sent to an agent of the "Graf Zeppelin" Co.) not later than April 28th, the mailed letter would be sent to Friedrichshafen to start with the "Graf Zeppelin" and would receive a "cachet" (postmark?) at each place the airship made a landing. The U. S. Post Office Department did not guarantee the trip and would not accept registered matter for the trip.

It is difficult to see just where the U. S. has anything to "commemorate" in this matter—it's a German venture. Probably the department intends to show a million dollars or more larger sales of stamps for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1930, which will (?) show "increased prosperity," and is not particularly interested in the legitimacy of the means employed.

For some time the older stamp collectors have been satisfied that the "commemorate" issues of U. S. postage stamps have been issued with an eye to easy money, from stamp collectors, rather than to "commemorate" some forgotten quasi-historical matter.

As the Zeppelin stamps are not for general postal use but only for the airship's "round-trip" it is evident that stamp collectors are to be mulcted of a large sum of money, collectively, because of their hobby. Such a proceeding by one of the smaller South American countries to secure postal revenue would provoke scornful reference to it, yet this great U. S. government descends to such questionable means of securing revenue—it is a shame.

The writer started collecting stamps in 1876 and is still interested in legitimate stamp issues.

**OMAHA COLLECTORS PLAN STAMP EXHIBIT**

Stamp and medal collectors of Nebraska will display their treasures, June 17 to July 1, at the Art Institute, Acquila Court.

A stamp collector's journal is published in Nebraska and on the western border of the state is a monument from which was taken the design of the present 5-cent airmail stamp.

**BAD "NEBR." OVERPRINTS—By Desley Taylor.**

Because of the striking similarity of the overprinted controls to a type-written abbreviation, it is not unreasonable to expect some counterfeiter to try to imitate the state stamps and produce one of the rare varieties.

By way of protecting collectors against possible fraudulent varieties which could be printed on a typewriter, some of the outstanding characteristics of the Bureau imprint that cannot be accurately duplicated are herewith presented.

It is impossible for anyone to successfully fake the overprints by typing the Kansas or Nebraska abbreviations on ordinary postage stamps. Comparison of a fraud made on a typewriter with a genuine control discloses several peculiarities that are quite easily recognized.

In the first place, there is a decided variation in the type fonts. As an example, observe that in the Nebr. overprint the "r" in particular is larger when produced by a typewriter.

Secondly, the spacing between letters is wider on a typewritten specimen than on the government emission. A typewritten imprint measures about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  millimeters across from the lower left-hand serif of the first letter of the abbreviation to the period, while the Bureau copy has a width of from  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to 9 millimeters.

Finally, the letters on a typewriter will usually cut or break the fabric of the paper and will show through on the back of the stamp. This is especially true of the period which will invariably punch a small hole through the stamp.

In case you are uncertain about the authenticity of a specimen of which you have a pair or block, note the positions of the overprints and carefully measure the distance between them. The distance from the bottom of one overprint to the top of the next on a vertical pair should be slightly over 22 millimeters. On horizontal pairs, the space between the period of one imprint to the first letter of the other should measure 12 millimeters. These distances can only be approximately measured with a millimeter scale. When you are particularly doubtful about a variety, a pair of dividers can be used to advantage. Another thing to remember is that the overprints are never tilted upward . . . that is, with the period higher than the first letter.

It is also well to keep in mind the fact that there is no possibility of any inverted controls appearing as the sheets are not fed individually to a hand press for overprinting, but the stamps and overprints are printed on the same press in one continuous operation.

However, a "break" in an overprinting plate could result in other varieties that have not as yet been discovered. For instance, a stamp might turn up with the period missing after the abbreviation or with one of the letters damaged as has been the case with some of the Bureau Print precancels.

Collectors having access to large stocks of the controls should examine the three and seven-cent stamps carefully for the "tall" varieties, such as have been found on the one, two and eight-cent denominations from Nebraska. The overprints are harder to notice on these two stamps than on the other values, and a close check may uncover some elongated specimens.

Apparently the ink of the three-center doesn't dry as rapidly as most of the other colors and as a result the black overprint in many cases, does not stick thoroughly to the wet violet. In the case of the seven-cent black with black imprint, the overprint is difficult to distinguish.—Mekeels.

**BEAUTIFUL NEW AIR MAIL STAMPS—By Douglas Armstrong.**

Some of the most beautiful stamps now being issued are reserved for use in the air post service. Two notable examples are artistic air stamps are described here. The first is one of the new Belgian series, effectively reproduced in photogravure from the designs of M. Goblet by the Brussels printing-house of Sips-Catior. It shows a postal 'plane in flight over the city of St. Hubert.

Other denominations of this set depict the same aeroplane over Ostend (50 centimes blue), Namur (2 francs green) and Brussels (5 francs claret). Night-flying over the towers and steeples of Stockholm is the subject of the design of two Swedish air post stamps which have just been provided in connection with the newly established air service between Stockholm-Copenhagen-Hanover and Rotterdam their face values being 10 ore (deep blue) and 50 ore (deep purple.)

The 10 francs Algerian stamp showing a view of the port of Algiers as it appeared in 1830, after the painting by M. Varecque, was sold exclusively by the special post office attached to an International Philatelic Exposition held in that city from May 4-11. Only 50,000 copies were printed, which were available only to persons holding tickets of admission.

The Europe Pan-American flight of the giant airship Graf Zeppelin is destined to provide philatelists with some attractive mementos. Germany, Spain, Brazil and the Untied States are all issuing special stamps for use on aerial mail dispatched over the several stages of the journey. The latest German-Zeppelin stamps take the form of the original issue of 1928, brought up-to-date by insertion in the upper left-hand corner of the vignette of the words "1 Sudamerika Fahrt, 1930," the colors and values remain unchanged.

The arrangements made by the United States Post Office for handling thousands of letters sent by eager souvenir hunters for transmission by the new flight of the famous dirigible include the provision of three special postage stamps, uniformly inscribed "Graf Zeppelin, Europe-Pan America Flight," recess printed in oblong format at the Washington Bureau of Engraving and Printing in denominations 65 cents green (Graf Zeppelin over the Atlantic), 1 dollar 30 brown (Graf Zeppelin between maps of the European and American seabords), and 2 dollars 60 blue (Graf Zeppelin in the clouds, passing the terrestrial globe.)

A million copies of each were struck off, after which the plates were destroyed. No details of the Spanish "Zeppelin" stamps are yet available, but Brazil has produced in anticipation a set of three values with a vignette of the airship flying over a sea on which floats an old time sailing vessel, comprising 10 milreis blue (inscription Brasil-E.U.A.) 5 milreis green and 10 milreis red (both inscribed Brazil-Europa.) Across the top of the design runs the date "1930," followed by the words "Primeiro Voo Commercial." These stamps have been surface printed at the Mint, Rio de Janeiro.—Bazar.

**A CHALLENGE—By A. F. Gamber.**

Editor Brody always has to remind me that my copy for the next WEST is due. Oftentimes he finds me at loss as to what precancel topic to write on. But this time he didn't. For S. P. Hughes, in his Nebraska Notes in the last WEST gave me something to write on. I wish it were always as easy to write something for one of the stamp papers as it is to answer his blasting remarks on precancels.

Mr. Hughes says he "learned that 60,000 varieties had a value of \$300." How did he learn this? Did he own that collection himself? Was he per-

sonally offered that sum for it? Who offered it to him? If he did not own that 60,000 variety collection for which that sum was offered, who did, and who made that offer? If some one did not make such an offer, how did Mr. Hughes arrive at the \$300 figure? We deserve more information on this point than you have given us, Mr. Hughes, let us have it. You give full information on the above points and I'll do the following: If you still have this collection of 60,000 varieties, or, if you'll tell us who still has it, and if said collection is in good marketable condition, I'll get you or the other fellow a lot more than \$300 for it, or I'll buy it myself for more than that sum. Isn't this fair?

I'm not throwing the bull, friends, I know what I'm talking about, Mr. Hughes doesn't. Listen: Three years ago this spring the A. E. Lawrence collection of around 18,000 varieties was sold by Rothem at auction for over \$900. Three years ago this spring, before the Standard Catalog started raising prices all 'round, I paid \$600 (seller's own price) for a collection of less than half the size of the one Mr. Hughes speaks of. Two years ago I paid an even \$200 (seller's own price) for a collection of only about 1,200 varieties. Right now I have under consideration the purchase of a collection still smaller—about 250 varieties—for \$300, seller's price once more. A great big collectin in the east was sold last year to a dealer for an even 25% of catalog. Gunesch paid Raff \$50,000 for his precancel stock and business. One single precancel has sold for \$250, others from \$10 up to \$150 and \$200. Mind you, these are FACTS, I'll furnish names, dates, any additional information on any of the above, that West readers may want, for the postage. I'm dealing in facts, Mr. Hughes is imagining something.

Mr. Hughes names as proof of the general worthlessness of precancels, the case of a small Nebraska office which precancelled on sheet of the old 1 cent Rotary. The person he refers to secured 42 of the 100 in a perfectly proper matter, and then offered them to collectors at TWENTY-FIVE TIMES face. Fair profit, not? Well, mighty few collectors fell for this. A copy was sent me at that price, and I sent it back, for I'm a general collector, and I figured I could get more for my two-bits elsewhere (and did.) So the failure of the owner to get rid of his 42 copies at a mere TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED PERCENT profit was due at least as much to his attempt to make an ungodly profit as it was to the cussedness of precancels in general. Or at least that is the way it looks to me. Had these 42 been sent out priced reasonably—say 10 cents each, which would have been plenty—the owner could have sold them all and yet made a fair profit. Mr. Hughes should know too, that it isn't scarcity that commands a price, it's demand. Had there been 42 collectors specializing in Nebraska precancels, the owner could have made his TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED PERCENT profit easily. But to us general collectors it was just a stamp priced too darned high, and that was that.

When Mr. Hughes says "the collector who wastes time or money on precancels is preparing himself for a sad disappointment," he is simply talking through his hat, that's all, as the concrete cases I have cited above will show. And I can cite plenty more, too, with all the proof you want.

Come on, Mr. Hughes, give us the lowdown on that 60,000 varieties that you "learned" "was worth only \$300. And re-read my offer. I mean it. DO YOU?

Valley City, North Dakota

The rare coins of the World are not fairly divided. Why do three men and three museums own all the rare 1804 U. S. silver dollars.—"Sparks."

## THE SAINT OLAF ISSUE OF NORWAY

For the collector who wants stamps with an historical interest in his album, there is a nice item to add this month in the St. Olaf issue of Norway. It is nine hundred years since the Patron Saint of this land was killed in battle by his fellow-countrymen, and four stamps have been issued in commemoration of the event.

A strange story is that of the life of Olaf Haraldsson, who, during his kingship, endured the sobriquet of "the Fat," and then, after death, was styled "the Holy."

He was born in 995, and spent his early manhood here in England fighting the Danes, who were to prove his enemies throughout his life. He returned to Norway, and by 1016 had gained the throne. He was a Christian, and he converted his country to the Christianity from which it had lapsed after the death of the first Olaf. His object was a wise and dual one—a united Norwegian Kingdom and a united Norwegian Church, and as much as could be done in those turbulent times to this end he did, though his fame lies more in that he pointed the way to the goal than that he actually attained it.

But like many another reformer he fell at the hands of his own countrymen. By various acts he alienated the support of his own nobles; to secure the obedience of his servants he surrounded himself with Icelanders, and this alone was enough to offend the old Norwegian families, who soon sided with the great Canute when the latter claimed the overlordship of Norway. The last straw was the murder of one of the most important of the nobility by an overzealous follower. He was forced to flee to Russia, whence he returned in 1030 with a tatterdemalion army of mercenaries and outlaws, which in spite of a surprisingly heroic stand was defeated at the battle of Stiklestad, in which Olaf himself was killed.

But, if I may put it thus, his death was his making. The Norwegians discovered that the Danes were no light taskmasters. Popular feeling changed. Miracles were said to have been worked at the tomb of Olaf the Fat in the Cathedral of Nidaros (Trondhjem), and soon Olaf the Fat of despised memory became Saint Olaf the Holy, the Patron Saint. People forgot the bad he had done, and remembered only the good, and in such a manner was the National Hero of Norway made.

He is shown on the 10 and 20 ore value of the new set defying a hailstorm of arrows such as our Harold at Hastings never saw, while on the 30 ore, a beautifully engraved masterpiece, we glimpse his death at Stiklestad. The remaining denomination shows Trondhjem Cathedral wherein his mortal remains rest. This church is one of the oldest in Norway, the See of Nidaros being the first founded by Saint Olaf's namesake and predecessor, Olaf Tryggveson.—Linn's Stamp News.

## EUROPE BUYING BACK U. S. RARITIES—By Douglas Armstrong.

The postage stamps of the United States enjoy a perennial popularity with philatelists the world over as much for their artistic beauty and delicacy of engraving as for the intrinsic rarity of specific varieties. First and foremost however, they have the greatest vogue with the stamp collectors of America itself.

In no other country is the national spirit so manifest, as witness the prevailing cult of "Americana," so that it is no exaggeration to say that nine out of every ten philatelists in the U. S. A. devote themselves primarily to the

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

postal issues of their own nation no matter what others they collect besides. To this fact, as well as to the enormous increase in collecting in all its branches that recent years have witnessed across the Atlantic, may be attributed the sensational advance in the philatelic values of the earlier postage stamps of the United States.

During the height of the American trade boom the stamp markets of the world were combed for fine specimens of old U. S. stamps to satisfy the phenomenal demand by American philatelists. For a time all the choicest pieces found their way to New York's philatelic center, and as a consequence prices were, and in many instances still are, inflated.

Only stamps in the highest state of philatelic perfection can be considered as worth the prices current for United States issues between the years 1847-1870. Anything falling short of the most meticulous standard must be valued today at a very substantial discount off "catalogue" quotations.

On the other hand, exceptional items in the way of large unsevered blocks of the imperforate series, ranking as "museum pieces," or fine pairs and strips upon the original envelopes are worth whatever they will fetch above "catalogue." Now that the financial situation in America is less easy, the tide is on the turn, and fine copies of U. S. "classics" are beginning to flow back to Europe.

Financial considerations apart, there are relatively few countries whose stamps offer such a fertile field to the philatelic student as do those of the United States. The line-engraved process by which the vast majority of these stamps have been produced lends itself particularly to intensive research, and despite the assiduous investigations of such eminent philatelists as John K. Tiffany, John N. Luff, Dr. Carroll Chase, and the rest, the work of the different engravers and printers presents an almost inexhaustible source of philatelic study.

Historically considered, the postal emissions of the U. S. A. are without equal in the world of stamps. The original issue by the United States Post Office on August 5, 1847, reproduced the likenesses of Benjamin Franklin, as Postmaster-General of the American Colonies, from the painting by John B. Longacre, and of George Washington, "Father of his country," from the Gilbert Stuart portrait.

Since then every American President from Washington to Harding has been portrayed (after the most famous masters) upon the national stamps, to say nothing of persons of less eminence.

To the enterprise and perspicacity of the U. S. postal authorities is due also a remarkable series of stamps recalling outstanding events in American history. Commencing with a pictorial life of Columbus in commemoration of the fourth centenary of his discovery of America, they pass in rapid review the colonization of Virginia, the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers and of the pioneer Huguenot and Walloon settlers, the discovery of San Francisco Bay and the Louisiana and Alaska purchases.—Bazar.

Hobby News is doing a useful service by listing each week several of the smaller islands of the world which issue stamps, giving the name of the capital city, its population, and the number of banks and business houses listed. This not only furnishes useful information but provides a basis for estimating the probable number of stamps used by each island, and hence their probable scarcity.—Stamp Collector's Bulletin.

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**\$1,000,000 IN STAMPS TO BE EXHIBITED IN BOSTON AS PHILATELIC SOCIETY MEETS THERE**

A million dollars worth of stamps will be exhibited in Boston when the annual convention of the American Philatelic Society is held at Horticultural hall, August 11 to 16. Fully 12,000 visitors and delegates are expected to attend, while hundreds of stamp dealers will be on hand to pursue their business.

One of the features of the convention will be the daily guard about the rare stamps, particularly the British Guiana, which sold for \$32,500. It is owned by Arthur Hinds, Utica, N. Y., whose collection contains many of the world's rarest stamps.

Each night the valuable stamps will be taken to a Boston bank under armed guard, while each morning the same guard will convey the precious bits of printed paper to the exhibition hall, a striking demonstration of their value.

Among the many stamps to be exhibited will be the rarest United States stamp, one issued by the postmaster of Boscowen, N. H. Before the first stamp for general use in this country was put out, it was the practice of postmasters to issue their own. This Boscowen stamp, worth 5 cents when issued, now sells for \$15,000.

The first stamp as we know them was a square piece of paper to be put on an envelope was the penny black stamp of Great Britain, 1840. It is relatively common and sells for around \$2. A large number of them were issued. Many of the old United States stamps have reached antique prices, though many are still very common and cheap. It is not only old stamps that are valuable; many of the more common stamps bring high prices, due to the envelope and cancellation. During the civil war many envelopes used with patriotic designs are now of considerable value. During the early days of the far West the express companies carried mail and issued stamps and envelopes which are greatly in demand among collectors.

Many of the late issues have shown enormous increases in value. One is the United States three-cent Victory stamp issued in 1919, which recently sold in a block of four for \$115. The ordinary three-cent stamp in the postoffice in 1916 now sells for 1200 times its cost. The \$5 stamp that was on sale from 1902 to 1916 now sells in a block for fifteen times its face value. Probably the most famous United States stamps are the five-cent errors, caused by a mistake in printing the ordinary two-cent stamp, which produced a sheet reading two cents except for two stamps which read five cents. The unperfected stamp of this type last sold for 3000 times its face value. Similarly the 1918 air mail stamp of 24-cent face value was printed, one sheet at least, with the airplane flying upside down, and recently sold for over 1000 times its face value.—Herald. Sent by Allen.

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**STAMP COLLECTOR ENJOYS HIS WORK**

Dr. Chas. Olson, one of Hartington, Neb's., most enthusiastic stamp collectors received four air mail letters Monday, the letter having made the trip on the Graf Zeppelin. One of the letters traveled from Fredrikshafen, Germany to Lakehurst, N. Y., and acquired two four mark and one two mark stamps. The letter cost \$2.50. One letter traveled from Rio Janerio, Brazil, S. A., to Lakehurst, N. Y., and cost \$2.50. Another letter made the journey and was mailed from Sevilla, Spain to Lakehurst and travelled on the Graf-Zeppelin, costing \$2.50 in stamps. The other airmail letter travelled from Lakehurst, N. Y., to Lakehurst making the complete trip on the Zeppelin, costing \$2.60.—Herald.

**"A PET PEEVE"**

Stamp collecting is a mighty fine hobby, easily abused—and often abused. Speculation has hurt the hobby, giving it one black eye. A great many of us are now gambling in stamps as we have gambled in stocks. Even governments have catered to the speculative stamp collector. Philatelists have become accustomed to speculative issues of stamps from lands such as Egypt, Spain, etc. We would not expect countries like the United States to follow suit.

Yet what has happened in April and May 1930? The United States issues three airmail stamps commemorating the Europe to South America to U. S. flight of the German Graf Zeppelin. Why? There is no legitimate reason for these stamps. We commemorate a foreign ship-of-the-air. Our country issues these stamps, most of which collectors buy up to aid in paying for the trip across the Atlantic.

The United States ought to stick to issuing its postage commemorating American events. The Pilgrims, Huguenots, Vikings, the Virginian colonists, Massachusetts Bay, Charleston, Hendrick Hudson, Nathan Hale—these are a few subjects which have been commemorated. Edison and Lindbergh have not been overlooked.

But why the Graf Zeppelin? Why not the British R-100? The Wold Court? Or what have you? If the United States is to copy Egypt, Portugal or Spain, why not on an extensive scale? Of course it cheapens the stamps but it brings in revenue—from gullible stamp collectors.—McIntgomery Mulford in Linn's Stamp News.

**THE RAREST AIR STAMP?**

Soon after the war, the Italian postal officials prepared a special air stamp for use on temporary services in the Levant. It is said that 4,000 copies were produced. Specialists have known of the existence of this issue, although actual examples had not come to light and it does not appear in any catalogues, but it now appears that the printing was destroyed, with the exceptions noted below, as the Turkish Post Offices objected to its use in Constantinople.

Three copies only were apparently retained, one for state archives and one each for two highly placed officials, but in spite of extensive enquiries, only two have been traced. One is government property and the other was offered to a philatelist some years ago. This has now been bought by a London dealer.

Description:—Italian Levant, 15 pi. on 25c. rose "Espresso" stamp of 1903 overprinted in black with a biplane silhouette, 36mm. wide, above which is "SERVISO POSTALE AEREO" in sans serif capitals, and below "Piastre 15."—Philatelic Magazine.

There is always one thing to remember, that is—Condition is of paramount importance. Do not pay so much attention to the numbers in your collection, because, when a dealer is asked to purchase a collection, he always looks for the poor specimens as when it comes to reselling to his clients, should he sell doubtful copies, he is prejudicing his reputation, and in all probability those customers will go elsewhere next time. A dealer will pay more attention to a collection of say 500 perfect stamps, than an accumulation of 5,000 of "mud-stained and disabled war veterans" that have passed through a few none-too-clean hands. Here is another "tip,"—if you have four stamps (known as a block) do not separate to use three for "swops," a block is always worth more than four single copies; and in some cases a pair are worth more than two singles.

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**BALTIMORE STAMP WORTH \$10,000, IS FOUND BY NATALIE S. LINCOLN  
ON AN 1848 LETTER**

Washington.—Miss Natalie Sumner Lincoln, editor of the D. A. R. Magazine and writer of detective stories, never got the thrill out of weaving a mystery plot that she did the other day in discovering among some old family letters a rare stamp, said by philatelists to be worth \$10,000 or more.

The stamp, one of the "provisional issues by postmasters" in 1845, of which there are few known to be in existence, has been in the Lincoln family for eighty-five years. For nine years, its existence and value unknown to Miss Lincoln, it has reposed in a wicker basket in her "workshop."

Miss Lincoln was rummaging through the basket the other day looking over some family letters. One envelope particularly held her attention owing to the peculiar stamp it bore. It was a white, oblong sticker, on which was printed in black letters at the top, "James M. Buchanan," and beneath it, "10 cents."

The stamp appeared to be uncanceled, but just at its left, in red letters, the postmaster had stamped "paid."

At the Postoffice Department the stamp was identified as one of the "provisional issues by postmasters," this stamp having been issued by the Baltimore postoffice. Owing to its fine preservation a high appraisal has been placed upon it. Even the envelope to which it is attached is unfaded.

The letter was addressed to Miss Lincoln's father, Dr. Nathan Smith Lincoln, an officer in the Civil War and for years a prominent physician here. Dr. Lincoln in 1848 was a senior at Dartmouth college.

The letter was from his uncle, Dr. Nathan Ryno Smith, of Baltimore, sending his regrets that he could not attend the college graduation exercises.

Miss Lincoln's mother, the late Mrs. Jeanne Gould Lincoln, had carefully preserved most of the early family letters.—N. Y. Times.

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**A SCARCE POSTMARK**

Most collectors of stamps have had so-called "Lucky Finds," but few found an "inverted Swan," as reported in Stamp Collecting.

Some time last year, looking through a collection of cheap rubbish put together by a dealer, I noticed a common 10 pf. Prussian in rather bad condition, but with a peculiar postmark. As I am interested in postmarks I bought it, after drawing the dealer's attention to it, for next to nothing.

As I, nor anyone else, had never seen such a postmark (Strahlen rays) on a Prussian stamp I sent it to a big German dealer, who advertised it in one of his periodical sales as a very 'great rarity' or a Unicum. It created quite a mild sensation amongst specialists, and long articles were written on it.

As it is very doubtful that another such specimen will ever be found, the question if it is a trial cancellation or was intended for a new cancelling postmark will never be settled. Needless to say, the stamp fetched a high price, but if it had been a perfect specimen, or, better still, on the original, it would indeed have fetched a big price.

It is these "Lucky Finds" which make philately one of the most interesting hobbies.

West would like to hear of your luckiest find.

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Some of the earlier precanceled stamps are very rare and difficult to obtain, and in this case age has more to do with the value of the stamp than ordinarily it has.— Hobby News.

**J. CATER, PROPRIETOR OF NORRIS & CO., POSTAGE STAMPS FOR  
COLLECTIONS, NORWOOD, LONDON, S.E.19, ENGLAND**

Born, 1897, (17th March) at Alfreton, Derbyshire, (a small town right in the center of England's chief industries, coal mining, iron works, hosiery and agriculture). Educated at Heanor secondary school, Derbyshire. After leaving school held a responsible administrative post at a local colliery; during his spare time he was building up a business in postage stamps for collectors under above title (then located at Leabrooks, Alfreton, Derbyshire). This was interrupted by the great war and he served with the British army from 1916 to 1919, spending two years in France and Belgium as chief clerk to a heavy artillery brigade. On his return to civil life he decided to strike out as a whole-time dealer in postage stamps and gradually extended his business until millions of packets and sets were being sold annually. In 1925 he decided to move to London so as to be able to devote more time and attention to rarer stamps and is glad to say that each year he has been able to show an increased turnover in spite of trade depression. His interest in stamps commenced at school and nothing short of real enthusiasm would have helped him to build up his business to its present importance, as for many years he was hampered through shortage of capital—which latter is very necessary to a stamp dealer; yea, absolutely essential.

In addition to stamps he is fond of outdoor sports, such as tennis (which he plays all the year round), hockey and football, while his garden is a constant source of delight to him. His health at times has been far from good, but it has not prevented him from building up a sound and successful business which has rendered excellent service to dealers and collectors the world over. See his ad.

**NORWAY'S PATRON SAINT**

Norway has just given to the world a striking set of four particular postage stamps in honor of the ninth centenary of the death of her patron saint, Olaf, who was slain in battle as the result of his efforts to impose Christianity upon his people. The values of 10 ore yellow green and 20 ore scarlet share a common design representing the Christian king standing amid a shower of arrows, upholding a crosier in his right hand in an attitude of defiance. Upon the 15 ore brown and sepia is seen a vignette of the cathedral of Nidaros (Trondjheim), which he founded, and where his remains are interred while the subject of the 30 ore deep blue is a stirring picture of the death of Olaf II, at the battle of Sticklestad (July 29, 1930), by the Norwegian artist P. N. Arbo, finely engraved in miniature.—Bazar.

An interesting souvenir has lately come into the hands of M. A. Vogel, of Chicago, a member of the A. N. A. and the Chicago Coin Club. It is one of the first issue of United Staes "postal" cards, printed in brown, with a heavy border on the address side. It is addressed to A. L. Hirshhorn, Esq., 711 South 5th Street., St. Louis, and reads as follows: "The American Numismatic & Archaeological Society hereby tenders to A. L. Hirshhorn, Esq., a grateful acknowledgement for his price list of U. S. coppers, a donation to its library. (Signed) Isaac F. Wood, Librarian, Mott Memorial Hall, 64 Madison Ave., N. Y., New York, Nov. 21, 1876."—Numismatist.

What is the value in gold of the following coins? Franc, Shilling, Lire, Piaster, Gulden, Rupee, Candarine, Peso, and the U. S. Silver Dollar.—"Sparks."

**HOW TO MAKE USE OF YOUR OWN COUNTRIES' STAMPS**

No doubt you have handled the stamps of your own country so often and found great difficulty in disposing of them at a remunerative figure, that you have regarded them as practically worthless or little value. Either you destroyed them or not troubled to collect them. The writer, having experienced all this, has arranged a scheme whereby stamps can be collected, exchanged and put to a great use. Firstly in building one's own collection, secondly in helping other collectors and all the while making a good profit in the transaction. This is the scheme:—First collect 2,000 of your Own Countries stamps and send them to..... See X ads in West.

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**THE "FIELD" OF PHILATELY**

The above is the title of a very interesting little booklet that has recently been published by D. Field, one of the leading dealers of London. The booklet is descriptive of the institution of D. Field, dealers in postage stamps and details the history of the firm. Throughout the booklet are numerous illustrations of the Field quarters and many other historical pictures of old London.

The business of this firm was started many years ago by Mr. David Field. His recent death left the business in the hands of his widow who is carrying on according to the plans of the founder.

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Postage stamp collecting, the Universal Hobby of the greatest and the humblest. Collecting of stamps of all nations is acknowledged as the most popular hobby in the world. The kings of England, Sweden, Siam, Spain, Portugal, Belgium have very large collections, each employing curators to buy, exchange and arrange their collections. In a recent article, published by one of the leading Philatelic Journals of Great Britain, it was said King George has over one hundred albums of stamps and is constantly, through agents all over the world, adding new stamps to his collection.

Most of America's foremost screen stars have the hobby, and are enthusiastic collectors of stamps, postal cards and air mail covers. The air mail branch of the hobby, namely Air Mail Covers, has largely developed since Lindbergh's flight. The constant opening of new air mail routes and dedication of new fields stimulate a special desire to possess a letter franked by special dedication field cachets, and letters carried by popular pilots on First Air Mail trips.

Possibly no greater encouragement is offered the hobby than the Government's liberality in printing new commemoration stamps of great educational value to the Junior collector. For instance, The Anthony Wayne, Hawaiian, Molly Pitcher, Edison, Sullivan, Ohio River—all special stamps, issued the last two years to commemorate historical events in American history.

To help and encourage collectors of stamps Canada, Sweden, Germany and the United States have established separate Philatelic Departments where collectors may obtain the choicest specimens in advance of issue.

In Nebraska is published America's largest Stamp Collectors' Journal. On the western border of our state is a monument, from which was taken the design for our present Five Cent Airmail stamp. In 1898, the Trans-Mississippi stamps portrayed Nebraska scenes, and served of great advertising value throughout America.

At the Fine Arts Room in Acquila Court, starting June 17 to July 1, will be displayed the medal (see another page) and many displays from prominent stamp collectors in Omaha and Nebraska.

**SEVERN MEMORIAL ROOM**

It is a very fitting and appropriate honor that Chicago has just bestowed upon our former editor, Charles E. Severn. Through the courtesy of the De Soto Stamp and Coin Co., a large room which forms part of the firm's suite has been set apart as a memorial meeting for Chicago and visiting philatelists. At the dedication over 100 attended and among the number was Mrs. Scvern. So the Severn Philatelic Room at Chicago will be a fitting tribute to the genius and social charm of our former associate.—Mekeel's Stamp News.

**GETS COLLEGE EDUCATION SELLING STAMPS**

The Columbus, O., Dispatch says a student at Wittenberg College, Springfield, O., one Edward Stephens has been paying for his own college education through the sale of stamps to fellow students and to collectors in Springfield.

Roger W. Babson says in catalog of H. E. Harris: It always pleases me to see the work which you are doing to encourage stamp collecting because you are thereby rendering a real educational and social service. I say this for two reasons. (1) I believe that children who collect stamps have the best records for success in after life of any group. Stamp collecting is not only the most practical method of learning geography and other subjects, but it furnishes the fundamentals for a business training. (2) I believe that adults not only have in stamp collecting a legitimate form of investment, but it gives them a greater interest in other nations, which they would in no other wise acquire.

The Tri-State Stamp Collectors' Meeting will be held at the Hotel Lockerbie, Indianapolis, on Saturday, June 14, and Sunday, June 15, 1930, under the auspices of the Indiana Stamp Club. There will be an exhibit held on the mezzanine floor of the Lockerbie with an informal luncheon in the Lockerbie Grill on Saturday evening. That night there will be an auction of stamps which promises to be one of the largest of its kind ever held in this part of the country. A catalogue on this sale will be printed and may be had on application. Mail bids will be accepted.

The average series of used stamps are now so cheap that a lad may get together a fairly representative collection for what he usually spends for ice cream. Some teachers have advocated the making and exhibiting of school collections of stamps as aids to study. Such collections would certainly be much more profitably studied than most of the maps and diagrams that cover the walls.—Gossip.

More than 8,000,000 stamps are included in a collection housed in a cottage at North Bersted, England, known as the "Jubilee Stamp House." They are used on the walls as substitutes for ordinary wall paper, decorations have been fashioned from them, and they ornament busts and other articles in the house. The entire collection has an estimated value of about \$400,000.—Clipping.

The old saying that there is nothing new under the sun, never sounds truer than when it is used referring to philately. What with precancels, air mails, ship stamps, commemoratives, etc.; it seems as though the field for originality is without limit. It is great sport, boys, so hop in, there is plenty of room for all.—New England Philatelist.

Go "WEST" young man, get on the stamping ground.

**KING EDWARD'S CHOICE FOR STAMP DESIGN—By Douglas Armstrong.**

One of the links with the Edwardian era disappeared at the end of March when stamps bearing the head of King Edward ceased to be valid for postage. Only the coins of his reign continue in circulation; why the stamps alone should have been singled out for demonetization it is difficult to explain.

Probably few people, other than philatelists, were even aware that nearly twenty years after the death of King Edward his stamps might legitimately be used upon letters. They may still be exchanged for equivalent value in the present series up to the end of September.

Actually the Edwardian postage stamps of Great Britain enjoyed a currency of twenty-eight years, having been first introduced on New Year's day, 1902. Many of us can recall the storm of criticism that was directed against the new issue when it became known that the artist responsible for the design was of Austrian nationality. Questions in Parliament elicited the reply that the King had himself selected the portrait.

A year or two ago the artist responsible, the late Emil Fuchs, obtained permission from King George to strike off one hundred proofs of the etching made after his drawing of King Edward for the British postage stamps.

After the impressions had been made, the plate was divided into a hundred equal parts and one of these fragments accompanied each etching, ensuring that no more could be made.

Although King Edward reigned for less than a decade, there are few rarities among the British postage stamps of the Edwardian era, if we except those over-printed for official correspondence of the various Government offices prior to May, 1904. Nor is it likely that so far as the normal varieties are concerned they will appreciate in value to a material extent for many years to come.

Such "scarcities" as exist will be found among the posthumous printings made by Harrison and Sons and at Somerset House from the original De La Rue plates during the years 1911-12, but only the 6d. magenta on chalk-surfaced paper runs into big money.

There is, however, one stamp of the last reign of which only three copies exist, two mint and the other used upon a letter, and all three are in the collection of King George.

On the very day that King Edward died there was to have been taken into service a new 2d. stamp of improved design, printed in bright Tyrian plum. Immediately the news of the King's death was received instructions were issued for the supplies of this stamp already in the hands of postmasters to be returned to the General Post Office for destruction, so that the specimens now in the Royal collection are unique.—Bazar.

**WHAT ARE GREAT BRITAIN CORNER LETTERS?**

These were letters running in alphabetical sequence introduced into the lower angles of the first postage stamps issued in Great Britain as an extra safeguard against forgery. In 1858 were placed in all four corners, those in the upper angles being the same as those in the bottom corners, but in reverse order. This system of lettering the stamps was not entirely discontinued until the King Edward stamps made their appearance in 1902.—Philatelic Advisor.

The Charm of Stamp Collecting—the greatest booster and recruiter for philately today—covers every phase of stamp collecting with special chapters on Airmails, Precancels, Type Collections, Rarities, Forgeries, etc. Sells for 50c.

**THE KING OF ENGLAND'S STAMP PURCHASE—By Douglas Armstrong.**

Evidence of King George's continued and active interest in stamp collecting is afforded by the announcement that the most important specialized collection of postage stamps of the Australian Commonwealth ever brought together has just been acquired on behalf of His Majesty for a sum said to be in the neighborhood of \$10,000.

Philatelists of the old school may open their eyes at such a price for a collection of modern issues, none of which can be more than thirty years old, nor any single item valued at more than five-and-twenty pounds. Yet, so comprehensive is this representation of stamps issued in Australia since the Federation, that nineteen volumes are required to display it, and every specimen in them is a distinct and authentic philatelic variety.

Although control of the postal services throughout Australia was vested in the Commonwealth Government as from March 1, 1901, nearly thirteen years elapsed before uniform postage stamps finally displaced the distinctive types of the individual states.

For the first five years no material change in the stamps was practicable on account of the famous "Braddon Clause," under which each state retained three-quarters of its own postal revenue.

As a first step towards unifying the Commonwealth postal issues, however, a standard design was adopted for some postage due stamps supplied in July, 1902, to all states, excepting Victoria, which retained its distinctive design. These were merely adaptations of the former New South Wales series by the simple expedient of erasing the initials "N.S.W." from the foot of the label.

The following year (1903) saw an abortive attempt to solve the problem of a uniform stamp by introducing a common key-plate with a blank tablet across the bottom of the stamp to allow for the insertion of the name of the issuing state. The design represented, rather crudely, "Australia Facing the Dawn," an allegorical figure seated beneath an arch supported by blocks, upon each of which was inscribed the name of one of the six states, with the date of its foundation. The scheme failed to meet with approval, some 9d. stamps for New South Wales and Queensland alone being printed from the general plate.

In 1905 the various postage stamps then current in Australia were ordered to be printed on paper watermarked with the letter "A" surmounted by a crown, but as supplies were still obtained from different sources, considerable variation occurred.

At length, in January, 1907, the "Braddon Clause" having expired, a committee was appointed to consider the question of a Commonwealth stamp issue, and as a result a Federal Stamp Printing Office was set up in Melbourne in 1908, where all subsequent Australian postage stamps have been produced. From October, 1910, the stamps of the various states became interchangeable.

On account of political dissensions no further action was taken until early in 1911, when competitive designs for a general series of Australian stamps were called for.

None of those submitted was adopted in its entirety, but twelve months later Mr. Blamire Young, of the Victorian Artists' Association, prepared an effective design of a Kangaroo displayed upon an outline map of Australia, which was approved (with some slight modification) and given to the world in the form of the first penny postage stamp of the Australian Commonwealth on January 2, 1913.

The omission of the Sovereign's head having been adversely criticised, a new penny stamp bearing the King's head supported by figures of a kangaroo and an emu, engraved and printed by the Commonwealth bank note printer, Mr. T. S. Harrison, was taken into use in December of the same year. It was followed by a 6d. value, also recess printed, in the design of a "kookaburra," or "laughing jackass," in August, 1914.

But the production of stamps by the copper-plate process proved too costly, so that dies and hardened plates were requisitioned from England to enable the King's head stamps to be surface printed. These dies were used later in the casting of copper electrotypes to form plates for stamps of other denominations. Successive printings from these locally-constructed plates have given rise to innumerable philatelic varieties in the more recent Commonwealth issues, which have been the subject of intensive specialization by philatelists.

Some are decidedly scarce, such as the ½d. stamp with thin figure "1" in the fraction on single watermarked paper, valued today at \$50 unsued, and the 1d. "Kangaroo" with the watermark sideways (instead of upright), which some collectors consider to be worth \$100.

Perhaps the most interesting varieties, historically considered, however, are the "Kangaroo" types provisionally printed upon the watermarked paper usually reserved for the Georgian series of 1915, due to war-time conditions, which precluded regular receipt of paper supplies from England.

Besides all the normally-issued specimens in their infinite variety, the collection purchased by King George includes a unique range of essays, proofs and color trials for Commonwealth postage stamps. It was formed by Mr. J. R. W. Purves, a Melbourne barrister, and a prominent member of the Philatelic Society of Victoria. At the International Philatelic Exhibition held in that city about eighteen months ago, it gained the highest award in its class—a gold medal—and is generally considered to be the finest of its kind extant.

The King's interest in Australian postage stamps is largely a sentimental one, dating back to the time when he journeyed to Australia to inaugurate the Commonwealth just over thirty years ago.

It may well be that the popularity already enjoyed by modern Australian stamps among a certain section of the philatelic public will be further enhanced by this latest token of royal interest.—Bazar.

#### WHY DO DEAD COUNTRIES SLUMP?

The "dead" countries are those which no longer issue stamps, such as the Australian Colonies which now form part of the Commonwealth, the African Colonies which now form part of the Union, the Italian States, and the German States. Their rarities fetch good prices, but, for the rest, nobody would call them popular. German States may be said to rank highest among the dead countries. The lowest in popularity at the moment is probably Orange Free State. All are interesting stamps for study, yet the public, like sheep, follow fashion's favorites to the highest pinnacle and grumble when they fall. Unpopular countries may often be picked up, almost in bundles, for a song. Philatelically they are heldom less—and usually more—interesting than the popular speculative country of the moment. One is a gamble, the other a study which, apart from pleasure often yields more profit than the gamble provides.—Philatelic Magazine.

## SWEDEN—By K. A. Wallquist.

I have just received information from the "Philatelic Agency," P. O. Dept., Stockholm, Sweden, in regard to the new 40 ore green postage stamp, type Gustav V, which was issued June 28, 1929, and printed from the same plates as the 40 ore blue stamp, issued June 4, 1921.

It has now been found out, that this plate was retouched. The original die shows no line of demarcation between the King's neck and the collar of his uniform. So the engraver retouched the plates by engraving small horizontal lines to mark the collar. These lines are very easy to see for they are little broader than the others. The 340 stamps of the plate, thus differ a little from one another. They were first printed on 70 grammes paper, and after that a small issue of 300,000 stamps on 60 grammes paper. New plates have now been manufactured and the stamps printed from the new plate show a very clear picture of the King.

The whole stock of paper with wavy lines is now used up. No more postage stamps will be printed on this kind of paper. The last stamps printed on wavy line paper were the 5 ore green perforated 10 and 13. This issue is a little lighter than the issues of May, 1929. In three or four months the 5 and 10 ore stamps, perf. 13 will be printed on paper without wavy lines. The last issue of the 60 ore lila, of January, 1930, is printed on 60 grammes paper and is a little lighter than the first issue of January, 1930, which was printed on 70 grammes paper. If you put the two issues on your window you will find how great the difference is.—Gossip.

## LONDON'S HISTORIC HOSPITAL

I do not know if any American philatelists stamp-hunting in London have ever had the misfortune to meet with an accident. If any did, he would most likely have been taken to Charing Cross Hospital, which occupies an island site at the west end of the Strand, our street of stamp stores.

As a tribute to the century-long record of work of mercy and healing achieved by this noble institution we are getting up a great stamp collection to be sold early next fall for the hospital funds. We are inviting collectors and dealers to help us get together a really fine lot which will make a grand sale, and produce at least enough to endow a bed or two to the honor of our delightful hobby.

Although I am afraid I am a very poor "beggar" they have made me chairman of the Stamp Collection Committee, so I just have to tell you I want the effort to be attended with complete success. If you can spare some stamps for the collection, or care to make a cash donation, either will be welcome and gratefully acknowledged. All gifts should be sent addressed, "Mr. Fred J. Melville, Charing Cross Hospital, London, Eng."

It is a great opportunity to show the world that "Philately" is not a selfish hobby, and that it turns readily to "Philanthropy" in a good cause.—Mekeels.

## "STAMPS FOR INVESTMENT"

We have received a neat little pamphlet from The Vallancey Press, Ltd., Philately House, 15 St. Bride St., London, E. C. 4, England, entitled "Stamps for Investment," by W. E. Fyndem. In this "Handbook No. 38" the author essays some of the soundest advice to all collectors—from beginners to advanced specialists—that is worth more than a thousand times the price of one shilling asked for the booklet.—Linn's.

**THE SECRET OF PHILATELY—By Phillip Collas.**

It is a truism that man has the collecting habit, and it is fortunate that all collectors do not seek the same thing. Where would we philatelists be if everyone gave his attention to stamps and the study of them?

The savage collects his shells or wampum, or pieces of silver and gold—because those things have a value which is appreciated by others like himself—and it is just as reasonable for him as it is for his brother, living in a more complex civilization, to gather in his stocks and bonds, and expend his energy accumulating securities. Perhaps he makes that his business in life, as well as his pleasure, and it may be added that unless a man gets a reasonable amount of pleasure out of his work, he will never be as successful as otherwise. So we, advancing a step further, find men expending time and money on things which aim to bring satisfaction, and pleasure. One may be an enthusiastic sportsman, and find an outlet for his love of the open in hunting and fishing, or perhaps golf, tennis, or swimming, and, if his purse will allow, speed boat racing or yachting. Another, a bit more domesticated and loving his home in a different way, may gather together a library of travel, adventure, and biography, and so find his relaxation in swift mental travel to the ends of the earth. He may even make a hobby of collecting rare books and spend his surplus earnings in gathering them together. Another, with artistic taste, looks forward to the day when he shall own an old master; still others collect coins and curios, and some, just mere stamps.

The writer, limited in interest to but the last mentioned form of collecting, is willing to justify that interest, and here, writing for other philatelists of varying degree, desires to set forth what appears to him the secret of philately, the best of all hobbies.

First of all, there appeals to me the General Interest that accrues from a collection of stamps. Very early the collector is bound to learn things that he would never know except through his stamps. Considering their size, perhaps there is no other thing that involves the use of so much that is technical in name and scientific in its essence, and that is one reason for their appeal to me.

Men like things which give them a broad outlook. So the general collector learns first of all about the paper on which his treasures are printed, how it is made from the pulp of forest trees or from rags gathered in the cities. Then of the screen on which the pulp is placed, which makes the paper either "laid" or "wove," then the rollers which make it "thin," "thick," or perhaps "pelure." Then how the little wire forms press in the watermark and the curious shapes these take and what their significance is. But so far this is but a beginning; the collector wants to know how the stamps are made, and quickly discovers that there are numbers of complicated processes. Some stamps are engraved, some lithographed, some surface printed, typographed and even embossed, and sometimes two methods are combined in one stamp. And in every method there is much to learn.

Then, coming to the actual printing, whether the stamps are printed on wet or dry sheets, from flat or rotary presses, becomes a matter of study, followed by more on inks, colors, methods of gumming and separation. These are the mechanical things connected with our hobby, and every one is an open door to the student of his stamps. They lead to fields of greater development and improved manufacture, but this is not all.

There is a wealth of information to be derived from philately. How much we learn of geography and the physical features of the countries that issue

stamps! We learn forms of Government and know about their rulers; Kings, Emperors, Czars and Sultans, are familiar friends. We see and learn too of national heroes, find Byron in a place of honor on a Greek stamp, and Columbus on that of many countries. Captain Sturt's portrait will soon be seen by millions of Australians. The flora and fauna of each country often appears on its stamps, and we learn of foreign currencies, their worth or worthlessness. We see in stamps the overthrow of great Governments, with the rise of new forms and even come to understand that mandates are not the male species of the edible date!

Have I mentioned enough "secrets" to be learned through stamps? I think there is ample in any one of these to justify collecting these bits of paper. There are still many others that are known to the initiate, but one always finds that each year there is a little more to know, a little more to enjoy. Philately is not seasonal; the true enthusiast is gathering, classifying and arranging his treasures all the year, and the thought must often occur that in stamp collecting is to be found the real pursuit of happiness. And that is "the Secret of Philately."—Australian Stamp Monthly.

Stamp collecting is an educational hobby. But even more than this, it is a means of outlining past as well as current events. This is, however, not always accomplished with new issues of postage, airmail or commemorative stamps. Sometimes cancellations tell a story in themselves. As for instance, when Lindbergh went upon his American good-will tour, mail he carried was especially cancelled, with special cachets to mark the event. Cachets have been and are being, extensively used of recent months to record particular events and flights, and an array of these will tell a current events story that is unique. There are few hobbies with such a broad scheme as Philately. And the popularity of stamps and envelopes that carry special cancellations and cachets is shown by the large number of stamp collectors in America and abroad. King George V, Alphonso XIII of Spain, the Belgian royal family, and Arthur Hind of Utica, New York, are a few of the most prominent collectors. Stamp collecting is a fascinating and instructive pastime, and a stamp album becomes one of the most famous portrait galleries in the world.—Linus.

W. Parker Lyon of Pasadena is the only stamp collector known who has gone to the expense of \$100,000 to house his collection, which consists of early California envelopes, and is the largest of its kind in the world. Mr. Lyon has transplanted an entire brick building and the furnishings of fifty other "ghost" mining town buildings of the '49 days to his Pasadena estate, where he has established what he calls the Wells, Fargo and Company's Pony Express Museum. Here he has an actual Wells, Fargo and Company Pony Express station, three stage coaches, saddle bags, bandit pistols, a saloon outfit, including bar and gambling devices, pictures, etc. Pony Express saddles, gold scales, mail bags, and the cancelling devices of former post offices, long since forgotten, add to the realism of the museum. Mr. Lyon is in the market for envelopes used into or out of California from 1849 to 1860, bearing either post office cancellations or Express company rubber stamps. He also wishes to hear about any material which could be added to his museum. His address is 1161 Virginia Road, Pasadena, California.—Philatelic Bulletin.

The "WEST" has subscribers in Death Valley and Paradise. It reaches everywhere in California.—Sparks.

## THE WAYNE STAMP CLUB.

That stamp collecting is growing and becoming more popular is quite evident that more people are interested in this hobby than ever before, it has not alone got the younger ones but the older fellow as well. In the club there are members of all ages. Due to the national and local publicity there has appeared in papers, the activities of stamp clubs has brought out many that years ago quit, but started again. There is an old saying amongst collectors: "Once a collector, always a collector."

This club is doing a lot of good work promoting philately, enlightening others and the good fellowship that is shown all help to build up a greater philatelic club.

In Detroit there are four good clubs. The largest being the Michigan Stamp Club, with a membership of about 175 active collectors who meet at Hotel Fort Wayne the first and third Saturday evenings of the month. The Wayne Stamp Society has about 100 members who meet the second and fourth Thursday evenings in the Recreation Center Building.

A newcomer in collecting fields is the Detroit Air Mail Society, which is to organize on Saturday evening, April 12. Twenty-five charter members are on the roll.

At the last meeting of the Wayne Club there were 40 stamp collectors present, many Michigan boys were there also. Six visitors were present. It was the best meeting the club has held for some time.

President A. C. Butzen called the meeting to order. Such business pertaining to stamps and for the club's benefit was transacted. Ex-President Charles Brisley, of the Michigan Stamp Club, gave an interesting talk on the big banquet held by this club on the 15th of March. It was the best ever held, some 80 people were there.

Recently, Karl Koslowski exhibited his collection of Latvia stamps, perhaps the most complete in the country. Nearly every issue was shown, many printed on newspaper, wallpaper and advertising bills, owing to the shortage of paper. This collection has won wherever it has been shown in different cities.

Herman W. Boers showed a collection of three issues of stamps—Lindbergh, Wright and Edison, which also won a prize at the last Michigan exhibition.

It contains autographs of Postmaster General and all assistants, special Lindbergh cancellation, United States and foreign countries, and an autograph of Lindbergh on a menu card.

Wright Bros. special issue, two sheets autographed by Orville Wright, Postmaster General New, Postmaster Kellogg, also special cancellation issued commemorating the 25th anniversary of Wright Bros. first flights.

The Golden Jubilee of Edison special 2 cent stamps was also exhibited, having many autographs also, and special cancellations from many cities where these celebrations were held.

A number of other exhibits are slated at each meeting, so anyone interested is welcome to see these. There are no dues, but it is the desire of the officers to make this a still greater club.

HERMAN W. BOERS, Publicity Director.

Travel with the "WEST" in comfort and economy. Our Bus will keep ahead of the "SHARKS."—Sparks.

The "WEST" is easy to buy, safe and pays big dividends.—Sparks.

## A PIONEER PASSES ON—By Fred J. Melville.

Mr. William P. Brown has died at his home in Long Island at the age of 83. The name will scarcely bring a philatelic memory to the great majority of stamp collectors today, but to those who have delved into the beginnings of our hobby the passing of this rather strange but very likeable old gentleman is an event in the history of philately.

Mr. Brown was first a dealer in coins from choice, his association with stamps came later and was in a sense thrust upon him. Son of a minister and editor of a weekly newspaper in Jersey City, he was brought up in an atmosphere of curiosities. His father, a president of the American Philological Society, had gathered many curios on his travels, and the cabinets in the family parlor contained articles of great variety.

Coins interested the son chiefly, and he made them a life study. He has told how he left home and set up as a kerb-stone coin dealer in New York in 1859, where his father found him a few days later, and persuaded him to come home and have a tidy up, and then provided him with a little capital. Thereafter he went home every Sunday.

The young coin dealer tacked his coins to boards and marked the price beneath each. The boards were then strung on to the park railings at the corner of Chambers street and Broadway.

Soon afterwards the great wave of enthusiasm for stamp collecting among boys and grown-ups spread through most of the European capitals and became also the rage in New York. The followers of the new cult foregathered at the old post office at the corner of Nassau and Liberty streets. They swapped stamps, but at first there was no cash market. But the eager ones were soon offering money for specimens, and the trade began.

William P. Brown thought it would prove but an ephemeral hobby, but he gave it a trial. He bought from a New York doctor a hundred stamps at a half-penny each, selected from a box in which the physician had thrown the stamps torn off his letters. These were William P. Brown's first stock of stamps. In selecting them he had no knowledge, merely choosing those he thought he would be most likely to sell.

It is wonderful now to relate how he set out his stamps for sale. He displayed them on boards as he did his coins, but sad to recall, he nailed them to the boards, a nail through every stamp.

Mr. Brown puts his beginning as a stamp dealer as just a few months after his start in coin-dealing. That would be 1860, when he was about eighteen years of age. His neighbor on the park railings, another coin dealer, also took to stamps, and a little later (1863) an English lad arrived from London in New York in search of work, almost his only possession being his stamp collection. This was the late John Walter Scott, who sold his first collection to William P. Brown for about £2 (\$10.00) in 1863.

Later Brown, who had a strongly developed philanthropic strain, loaned Scott about £20 worth of stamps to start trading in the same novel business as himself.

Brown's rise in the stamp business ran parallel with the progress of the stamp trade for many years. At first a basement and later a complete store or shop in John street and afterwards a bigger one in Nassau street became his headquarters. Of the many incidents that could be told of his long philatelic career, Mr. Brown once wrote me of how Scott returned his kindly act in starting him in stamps. In the eighties Brown suffered a serious set-back from a

fire which destroyed a great part of his stock, and friend Scott, then one of the big dealers, came forward at once and offered him a loan of £200 to start afresh.

We have suggested that Mr. Brown was something of a character. An infirmity had marked him for a career in a sedentary line of business, and his early clients who liked him and trusted him knew him as Billy Brown, and the less reverent as "Limping Billy." He was rather blunt and outspoken at times, but his sterling character was recognized throughout the trade all his active life.

His start as a kerb-stone dealer may have directed his natural philanthropic bent in the direction of the down-and-out. Few ever knew of his charities, but it is known that he was for many years one of the strongest supporters of the "Bread Line," a Bowery charity that works through the night among the homeless and destitute of New York's great city.

Brown's first printed priced catalogue appeared in 1868, and he produced from 1870 onwards a somewhat quaint periodical at first called the Kuriositi Kabinet, part of which is in what was even then perhaps not "nu spelin." The phonetic spelling was dropped in 1872, when the little paper became the Curiosity Cabinet.

One trembles to think what precious treasures may have been nailed to the boards on the park railings seventy years ago. We do not know when wiser methods came to Brown, and he adopted the painless form of mounting with hinges. Certainly he must have had and passed on many of the great rarities. From a boy he once bought two of the 2 cents Hawaiian "Missionaries" which he sold to the great Ferrari at £5 each (circa 1872). One of them may have been the one sold for £3,900 at the first Ferrari sale, but Ferrari had at one time or another four out of the ten copies known.

Brown developed a very large approval sheet trade, and his name was familiar to several generations of schoolboys. When he left New York to settle in a country house on Long Island he carried on his business in stamps almost exclusively by post, and took to gardening, which no doubt contributed to the good health he enjoyed nearly to the end of his long and active life.

It is perhaps a pity that Mr. Brown could never be persuaded to write an autobiography. The few scraps of memories he has passed down are of the slightest. But he was personally a very retiring type, and had little use for personal publicity. Besides, his real passion was for coins, while his fame for fortune came from stamps for which he himself cared little. "I look upon stamps as only playthings," he said, "I have always looked upon them as such." —Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

He told West publisher he started Scott up twice in stamp business.

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#### VALUE OF HOBBY TO INDIVIDUALS

In the face of the nerve-racking demands of modern civilization, a hobby is a healthful and often necessary habit, according to conclusions drawn from a recent survey made by the National Safety Council.

Hobbies such as the collecting of postage stamps are not recommended on the ground that in themselves they are particularly valuable. Their true value, it is said, lies in the interest which they create in the individual with the hobby. An individual with a hobby is said to be less likely to lose mental balance when life or business seems to be going wrong, for at such times he can fall back on his hobby and that interest, by serving to absorb his attention for a while, will make a brighter atmosphere for him.—N. Y. Times.

**FOREIGN REVENUE NOTES—By O. T. Hartman.**

Victoria, Australia, enacted a new check stamp law, and around March this year the law went into effect. For only a few days a provisional surcharged: ½d on the 1d and 2d stamp duty stamps were for sale, then appeared a ½d lilac in similar design used for many years, either perf. or roulette. This to be used until a regular imprinted check form is ready and issued. The ½d provisional on 2d is said hard to secure.

We are all familiar with the various gaudy cigarbands used around this country's cigars but a plain designed cigarband represents a tax imposed in Belgium. The design itself is 72m by 12m and the band a little larger. At first no watermark, then watermark; something like: ROYAUME BELGIQUE, etc. The tax reads: Class I—1c, maximum 20c (retail) up to VII 35c, maximum f3, 50 (retail); and another series like: S2, maximum 40c to S13, tax 18c f2.00. How many different I do not know as I have only 13 myself.

Somewhere in England is a collection of 11,000 different matchbox top labels for sale. A collection which hardly will be duplicated in a hurry, and it is not necessary that we all try to get that many but a page or two of these labels have quite an attractive appeal. While Sweden exerts a kind of control, you can secure match top labels now of Russia, Belgium, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Denmark, Australia, Norway, etc. Printed in all kinds of designs and colors attract the eye. These labels come on the penny box; the dozen packet; and the large gross (144) packet stamp.

Nowadays very little attention is paid and hardly advertised are our United States various state tax stamps. This should not be. Now, where several cigarette tax and other taxes for various purposes exist, mostly in the form of a kind of stamp, therefore quite collectable, should be gathered up by those who have the opportunity. The taxes printed on tags or to be exposed on walls, etc., are of course, not so desirable. How many of you collectors have saved the gasoline tax; milk inspection fee, etc., of your state of 10 years ago or so? Can you find any now? Try to locate them.

**YOUTH AND THE STAMP TRADE**

There are ample opportunities in the professional world of stamps for energetic young men with business ability and philatelic knowledge, yet few appear to be taking it up except the sons of those who are already in the business. It is, however, idle for any youth to imagine he can enter the stamp trade with ease, simply because he possesses a stamp album and over a period of a few years has acquired a few thousand stamps. This is a good and necessary beginning, but it must be followed by an apprenticeship of at least three years stamp handling in a dealer's office before the tyro can hope to grasp the rudiments of the commercial side, and during that time the beginner will be worth only a very small salary to the employer. Yet the youth who intends to take up stamps seriously will be very well advised to undertake this plodding. It is the only form of early training he can get, and he will never be much good in the stamp world if he does not go through with it. Familiarity with stamps can only come from handling and sorting them, and the more tens of thousands handled, soaked, sorted and searched, the sooner will the time come when stamps can be appraised without this arduous labor, and the buying and selling of them be undertaken in earnest.—Philatelic Magazine.

Take the "WEST." It will be the last song of the Rogues for you.—Sparks.

## JUST NOTES BY S. P. HUGHES, AUBURN, NEBRASKA

Some recent notes in this paper by the writer, advising the collector to leave pre-cancels alone, and to confine his energies to regular lines, seems to have stirred up a small hornets' nest. The letters reaching the writer will have no effect on his opinions or change matters in any manner. The fact can not be denied that this side issue has detracted from legitimate lines and has caused many a would be stamp collector to waste his time and energies chasing an imaginary prominence he can never attain. Stamps like coins or any other matters of an historical nature obtain their value from several sources. We thus have historical interest, demand and scarcity. All three must exist to create a value. Some collect for the mere pleasure of the collection, others are interested only in the historical interest, and still others only in the cash value. Without this last, our collections would in many cases never have been made. We can not get away from the fact that most of us are interested more or less in the monetary side of our collections, knowing in advance that if a time ever comes that we must sell, we can do so. Not so with the pre-cancels. The man who wastes his time or money gathering these cancelled in advance stamps will learn to his sorrow that they have no value beyond the actual value of a cancelled stamp. In fact it has been the experience of the writer that the pre-cancel has not the value of a common cancelled stamp of the same issue, at least among the pre-cancel collectors.

About every so often the Ulster County Gazette with an account of the death of George Washington begins turning up, and this happens once or twice with each generation. Thirty-five or forty years ago the country seemed to be flooded with copies of this rare newspaper, and within the last few months they are appearing again in large numbers. The so called newspapers are just imitations or outright frauds. A few of the original papers are in existence and they are quite scarce. Persons offered these papers should have them examined by some one who knows, or buy only from some reliable dealer.

The Hiawatha, Kas., Daily World has for some time been running a series of articles by Mark Zimmerman of White Cloud, dealing with the archeaology and early historical matters of northeastern Kansas. Mr. Zimmerman and Mr. Edwin Parks of the same place have spent many years exploring the ancient ruins and mounds of northeastern Kansas and are considered authorities on the early aborigines of the territory.

The writer is in receipt of numerous letters asking about the Nebraska and Kansas stamps and why they are not more plentiful. When it is remembered that the entire population of the two states is less than that of Chicago the reader can readily understand why these stamps in used condition are so scarce. Many of the offices do not have them at all, and none have ever been supplied the larger offices. Only in the small towns are the overprints obtainable and only a few of these are able to supply all values. Post masters are forbidden to fill mail orders for these stamps. The used stamps are going to be scarce as their use is very limited, and the few that are used do not, except in rare instances ever reach collectors.

The writer was recently shown a new plan of mounting a collection of small minerals, and the plan is so unique that it may interest others. The collector for lack of space was obliged to use small specimens, not over one half inch in size. A number of Chesterfield cigaret boxes were obtained, of the size containing fifty cigarettes, and a thin sheet of card board or heavy plate paper fitted to the bottom. This gave a mounting surface of about four by five inches.

## PHILATELIC THE IDEAL WAY OF MAKING MONEY BREED

By R. D. McGuffin.

We shall show you that it is no trick at all to make money invested in stamps breed faster than it would if put out under ideal conditions at 6 per cent interest. To put money out at compound interest on loan it is agreed is not practical. But money invested in stamps breeds that fast, not all stamps, but many that are easily selected. It is the purpose of this treatise to list the countries whose stamps have in the past bred in value faster than compound interest. Since it is possible to make money breed faster than compound interest when invested in stamps it follows that it should appeal to the man with much capital or little. For one extremely important reason stamp investment should appeal to the man with moderate means. This extremely important reason is that as he has a dollar to spare he can put it into stamps and it immediately goes to work. He does not have to wait to accumulate \$100 or \$1,000 to make an investment. Furthermore, he has the stamp "to have and to hold," to see and gloat over, a constant incentive to further saving. There may be better ways whereby a man may get a "kick" out of denying himself in order to save, but we know of none that is available to the man of moderate means. A rich man may get a "kick" out of denying himself a yacht in order to buy another mine; I have never been in a position to get that kind of a thrill. I am glad, however, that I have not been denied the "kick" that comes from saving to invest in stamps. The collector's appetite for saving grows by what it feeds on; as the collection grows the interest in it grows; it is the ideal way to save and like it. Denial? No, not at all, but, on the contrary, gratification, which is one form of gratification that don't hurt you. I lay stress on the pleasure of collecting only as it causes the collector to like to save. We do what we like to do. Stamp collecting more than sugar coats the pill of saving; it covers said pill with whipped cream and caramel sauce so that it surely is easy to take. You can do your friend no greater service than by telling him what stamps have in store for him, i. e. saving of capital, accumulation of interest at a rate impossible in ordinary money-lending ways and the fun of daily gratifying the very human instinct to acquire and accumulate. We say nothing about "beauty, geography and historical significance;" to do so would only weaken the argument. Those things are just thrown in for good measure and have no importance by comparison with the real, fundamentally important reasons for collecting stamps. Philately is the ideal way of saving money and making it breed.—Philatelic Bulletin.

The overprinting of postage stamps for Nebraska and Kansas with an abbreviation of the name of the state has proved a profitable experiment, according to postoffice officials. When the present supply of overprinted stamps is exhausted there will be no more. A year ago the postal authorities at Washington conceived the plan of printing the name of a state on the stamps from 1c to 10c. Nebraska and Kansas were selected for the experiment. The idea was that a robber would entail a risk of being caught trying to dispose of stolen stamps, because of this mark of identification. However, the expenses of overprinting and accounting was found to offset any possible advantage in preventing theft.—Lincoln Journal.

Advertise in the "WEST," Always the best,  
Beats all the rest, And feathers your nest.—"Sparks."

**THE DAYS OF REAL SPORT**

Cartoonist Briggs, whom we are told is a stamp collector, has again used the hobby in one of his syndicated drawings as shown in a clipping at hand from Edward H. Sprangers of Philadelphia. The picture shows a group of boys gathered in the parlor around the old base burner and the rain patterning outside the window. The baby is playing with its rattle while the lad of the house is asking "Ma" if he can have some ginger snaps for Eddie, who says he's hungry. One chap is at the table looking through a stamp album and he is complimenting "Skinnay" on "those dandy Honduras stamps." Also lying on the table are books by Henty, Alger and Optic, books that every old boy remembers as his childhood companions. A youngster on the floor is scanning a paper while another in the rocker is reading a copy of "Golden Days" a large pile of this journal lying at his feet on the floor.

Briggs says, "The day was cold and dark and dreary." Who can't remember many such a day when the old stamp book and the papers of the period were companions that helped to pass away many such a day. The editor distinctly remembers other publications of those days and the many features that made them especially appealing to stamp collectors. There was Golden Hours and Happy Days. The first of these publications had a trade exchange column in which a boy could place a small trade notice at a very small cost or in exchange for coupons from the publication and it is my distinct recollection that many of the trade and exchange notices in this publication at that time were about postage stamps and kindred items.

The thought of these papers comes to mind every now and then when some name of some one now interested in stamps appears to mind from memory's storehouse of long ago.—Linn's Stamp News.

**"ISLANDS OF ROMANCE"**

Some reader has laughed at us—rather with us, for we do not take ourselves seriously, that is not too seriously—and wants to know what we mean by "Islands of Romance."

How we wish we could tell him.

To some of us all islands are Islands of Romance; to others only those bits of shell and coral of the South Seas spell magic; some weave the charm around the jutting rocks of northern waters; and yet others fix their dreams to those sandy beaches washed by the waters of the Caribbean.

All of these tiny specks of land, if you have the gift, are Islands of Romance—and all of them have their stamps. Pick your island, and if you can own it—and the chances are you can't—gather to yourself all that you can pertaining to it; its books, papers, curios, and most of all its stamps; and with the stamps take the envelopes. It's a gift, but if you have it, you will sense the romance of the islands as these letters come to you; you will wonder on the sender; what message the letter carried; what hopes and joys, what sorrows—and all the while you ponder, weaving tales as best befits you—perhaps, after all, the letter carried nothing more romantic than a past due bill.—Hobby News.

**KING GEORGE BUYS COLLECTION**

A clipping tells about the purchase by King George of England, of the famous Purves collection of Commonwealth Stamps. This collection was awarded a gold medal at the 1928 International Exhibition at Melbourne. The price paid for the collection is believed to be about 2,000 pounds.—Linn's News.



# BOILED DOWN

## ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

Stamp Collecting this greatest of all hobbies—"interesting, educational and financially profitable. They show us what works of art look like, how classic cathedrals are fashioned, where animals live, what has happened in the past and many current events, they familiarize us with great and notable (as well as infamous) men and women.

Place you ad in West where it will pay for itself. Try an ad in next issue. Your ad inserted in the West is guaranteed a world-wide circulation, and the results will make you a regular advertiser.

No portraits save Washington and Franklin—with the exception of one portrait of Jefferson—appears on U. S. postage previous to 1861.

Don't stand by and watch us grow, grow with us. Send your ad or subscribe today. Don't put it off, send ad while you are thinking about it.

St. George and the dragon appear upon what country's postage?

Sculpture at Ani, which dates back to ancient history, is shown on certain Armenian stamps.

Klinger has a 2c Nebr. on the Double Paper variety and has a 2c Kansas, narrow spacing with both impressions on the same stamp.

The Hobby Fair recently held at Grand Forks, N. D., was such a success that it was decided to make it an annual event. All hobbies were represented, but stamps held an important place.

More female figures have appeared on French stamps than males.

Only one postage stamp bears the motto on our coins, "In God We Trust"—1928 U. S. Commemorative of Valley Forge.

**Must Be a Reason**—The West list of readers is steadily growing. The advertising carried in the paper is increasing. There must be a reason.

A. Wilson says the figure on the Indian penny is not an Indian at all but a white female, one Sarah Longacre, who is wearing an Indian head-dress.

A Hungarian 2000 krona postage shows a basketball game.

Few U. S. commemorative stamp issues appear with the word "Commemorative" upon them. The word is found on 1907 issue, the 1904 issue. The 1909 Hudson-Fulton is called the "Celebration," the 1920 the "Tercentenary."

Read the messages in the West printed by advertisers who seek to save you good maney. Best by test.

The Muse of History is shown on a Portugese postage stamp.

West Advertising is helping you to get stamps that satisfy you at reasonable prices. The more you read the more you profit.

You will be wealthier and wiser if you read and use West Want X Ads.

Charles Severn, philatelist, has gone to his reward, Requiescat in pace. His monument is the service he rendered his fellows.

Only two U. S. postage stamps are of fractional currency; the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent Nathan Hale issue, and the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -cent brown Harding.

Many thousands of collectors in all parts of the world are making use of West. Why not you?



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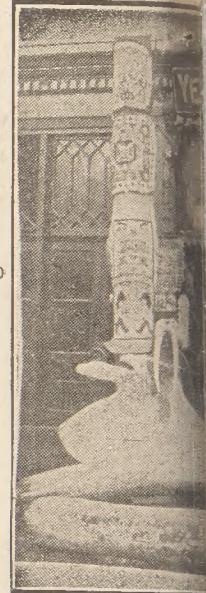
James M. Buckley  
5 Cents

F. M.



R. F. Whitehead  
Lovingston  
Nelson Co. Va  
Paid

One of Rare Covers. See Write Up of One Just Found and Sold New York Co



Curiosities

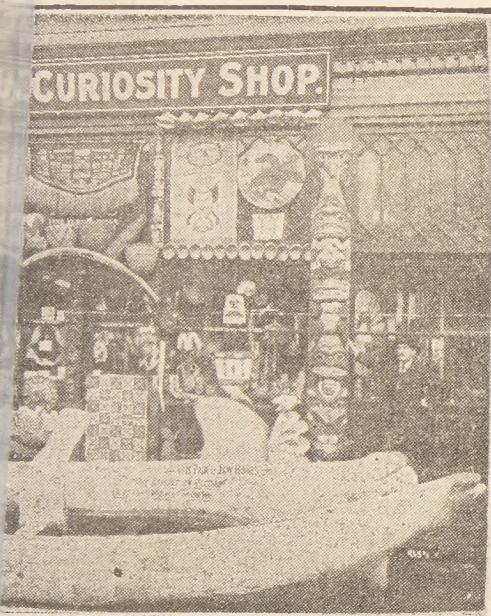
## To Be Displayed

THIS queen Victoria medal, struck in pure silver in 1890 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first postage envelope and stamp, has been secured by Nelson T. Thorson, Omaha collector, after a search of years. It will be included in the Philatelic society exhibit at the Art institute in June.



Tanimoto and His Family  
of Variety St

# Our - - rations



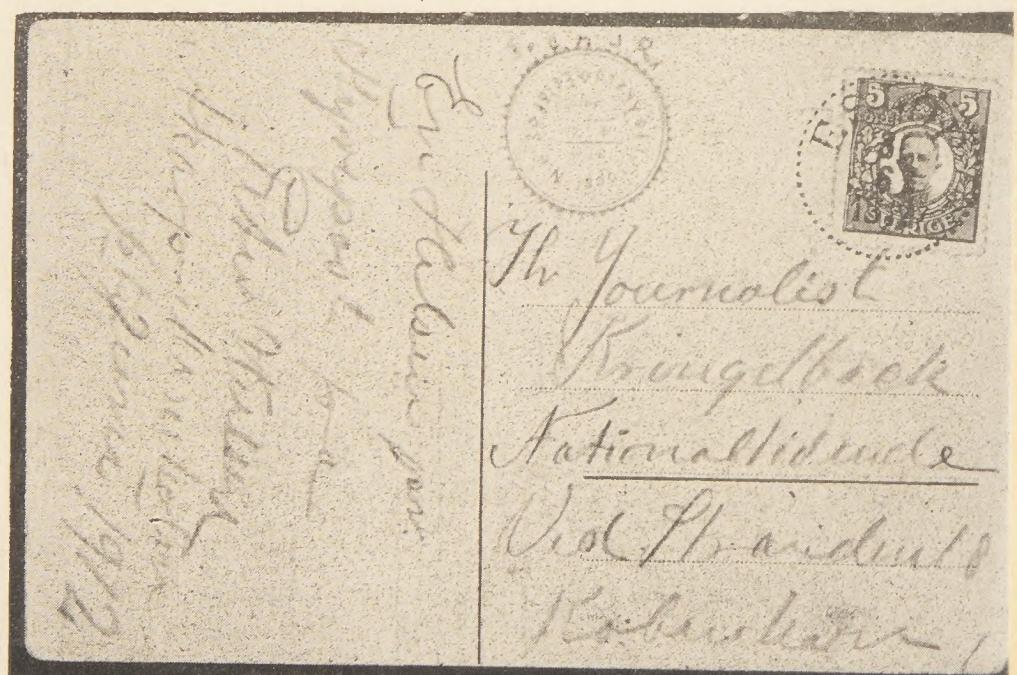
Seattle, Wash. See his ads.

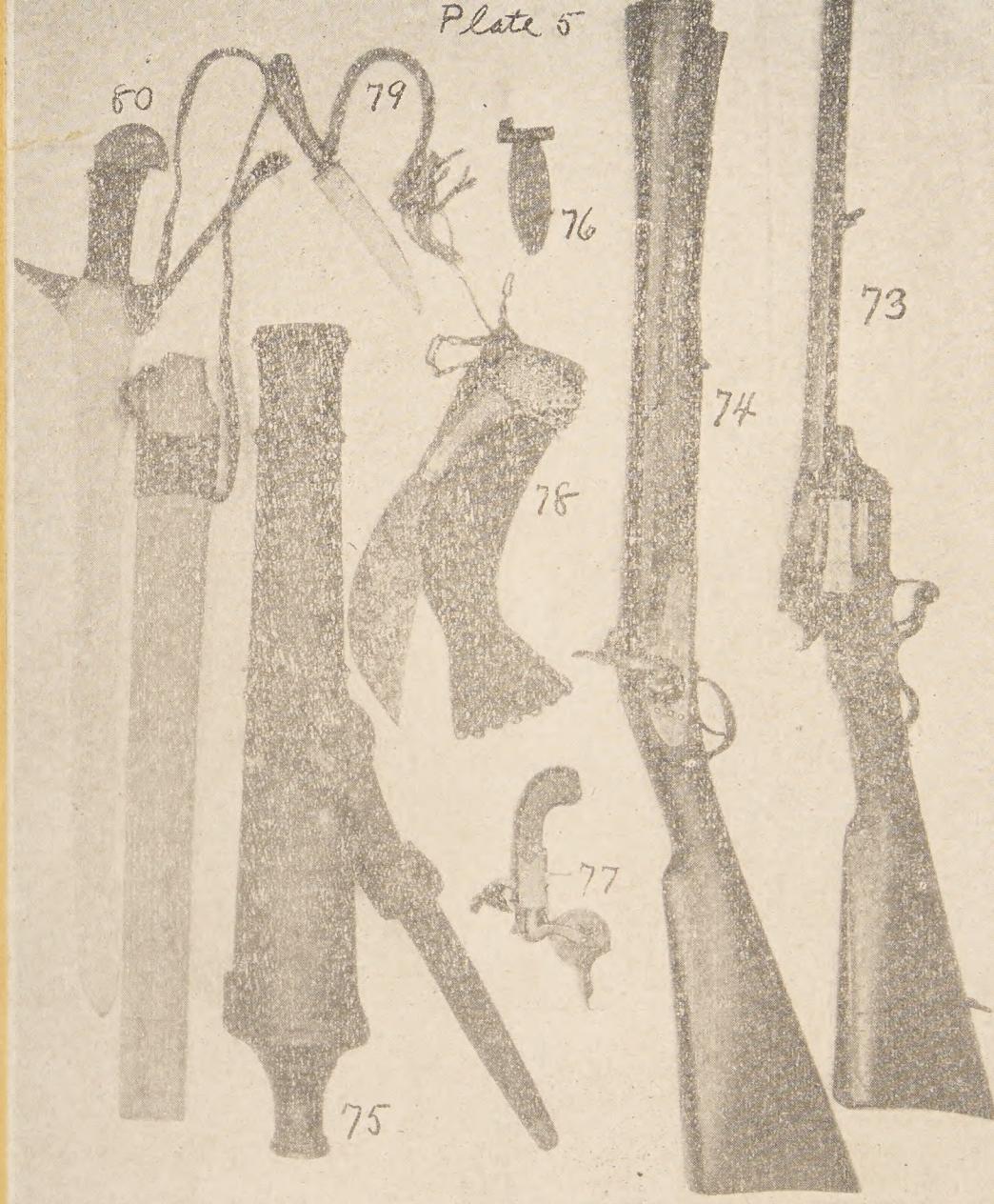


J. Cater, Owner Norris & Co., Norwood, London.  
See his ads and write up.

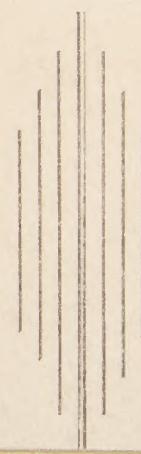


Stamp Bourse of Paris. Worth Seeing.





Sold by Walpole Galleries, New York.



Lincoln Plaque of E. Jonas, Chicago. See his ad on another page.

# NUMISMATICS



Of all antiquities coins are the smallest, yet as a class, the most authoritative in record, and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence; nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, lost towns, forgotten divinities, new schools of art, have here their authentic record.

Please send us notes and clippings on coins, coinage, currency, medals, etc., We will appreciate such a favor and give credit for all that is sent. In co-operating with us in this way you will help make the contents of our department more interesting, M. SORENSEN, 1353 BURCH AVE., WEST, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

Recently I read in a foreign magazine an article on the house of Rothschild. It was the story of a coin collecting boy who rose to be the world's greatest financier. Mayer Anselm, the founder of the great banking house, was born in Frankfurt a. m., 1790. As a boy of 10 years he started as a money changer. From his father he had learned the many fine points about this business, among other things to collect gold coins and give equal value in copper. At that time nearly every city had its own money system, and the money changer received frequent visits from travelers. In this way young Mayer picked up many valuable gold coins. This brought the young Jewish boy from Frankfurt in connection with General Erostoff, an enthusiastic numismatist and right hand man of the ruling Prince William of Hessen. This was an opportunity young Mayer made use of, and he soon became a fast friend of the prince, who was one of the world's richest men and also a passionate collector of fine coins and curios. From now on Mayer rose rapidly in the world of finance. But that is another story. Of course, it is not every boy that gets as far as Mayer Anselm did just because he likes to study coins, but coin collecting is a good pastime just the same. I learned one thing more from this article. As usual, when it comes to foreign names, we stumble and make a mess of them. So with the name Rothschild. The average American will pronounce it Roths-child and think he has done full duty to his country. The name, by the way, has a meaning, and should be pronounced instead Roth-schild, as the meaning of it is "Red Sign" or "Red Signboard." The old family home in Frankfurt had a red signboard on it, and when Mayer Anselm was knighted he took that name. So much for that.

There are extant many theories as to the origin of the dollar sign\$, which is popularly supposed to be a conventional combination of the initials "U. S." One theory traces its origin to the sun worshippers of Central Asia, while another attributes it to a bookkeeper in a Virginia tobacco district. Some have suggested it was a combination of the figure 8 on a "piece of eight," which was placed between two pillars on the Spanish dollar. Others have attributed it to the "globe dollar" of Charles III. which exhibited between two columns globes representing the Old and the New Worlds as subject to Spain. But none of these theories has shown the actual steps which made the transition, says Dr. Florian Cajori of the University of California. According to Dr. Cajori, who recently completed an exhaustive study of the evidence supporting each of the above theories, the dollar mark as we know it is a lineal descendant of the

Spanish abbreviation "ps" for "pesos." Most of the early manuscript uses of the dollar mark show the "S" with only one line through it, he says, which would not be the case if the "S" was to be combined with "U." On the other hand, the "p" was often made by a single downward stroke in documents.

The Brooklyn Bridge Plaza Association has issued a very pretty medal in commemoration of the spirit of 1776, the battle and evacuation of Long Island, and the beginning of the work of the association in creating a Memorial Portal and Plaza to Brooklyn Bridge.

Do you remember when the so-called "Spinner" bills were issued by the United States treasury? They got their name from the odd signature of the then secretary of the treasury, Francis Elias Spinner. They appeared in the panic years of the early '70s and were very small, compared with the currency of today. Their dimensions were about two by three inches and their values were 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents.

Paper money is believed to have originated in China. Marco Polo, the famous traveler, was the first to report in Europe the existence of paper money in China, under the Moguls. It was subsequently introduced into Persia. It is recorded that as early as 119 B. C. there was introduced in China Phi-pii or "value in skins." These were small pieces of deerskin, a Chinese square foot in size, whose price was fixed at a sum approximately equal to \$5.00.

The term "penny" is unofficial, but it has been in general use in this country since the revolutionary war, but it has never been the official designation of any coin minted in the United States. It is and has been a recognized coin of Great Britain and the coinage of England was used in this country for a number of years after the revolution, and the use of the term became an established custom at that time and the name became applied to the cent as it was about the same value. The first cents actually minted under the constitution appeared in 1793.

One of the rarest bank notes ever issued by the United States government—a \$7 bill—is in possession of the J. M. Cooper family, Mantorville, Minn. The note, which the government never has redeemed, was given Cooper's grandfather in 1776 for services in the Continental army. It was signed by J. W. Watkins and N. Sellers, and is dated July 22, 1776. On one side it "entitles the bearer seven Spanish milled dollars or the value theof in gold or silver, according to a resolution of Congress." The reverse bears a picture—that of a tree standing in a square. The bill has been in possession of the Cooper family since it was issued.

One and two dollar bills, omen of ill luck to desert rats and miners, are scorned in the vast sagebrush reaches of southern Nevada. Banks do not carry them to cash small checks or to make change, and most business houses refuse to place any piece of currency under \$5.00 in the cash register. Before 1917 gold and silver coins were almost the only mediums of exchange. Aversion to paper money is natural in a region where the men live and die for the yellow or silver ore. Southern Nevada owes its place on the map to the coined money. Today there is an actual boycott on one and two dollar bills in Tonopah and other mining camps of the state. Local banks ship away twice a month the accumulation of that denomination.

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More than 3,000 medieval coins of gold, silver or bronze were found in an urn discovered in Perguia, Italy, recently. Several specimens were sent to King Victor Emmanuel, one of the world's foremost numismatists.

## KANSAS NOTES.—By George J. Remsburg.

The editor of this column has been associated with Philatelic West since it was started 35 years ago. He spent 46 years of his life in Kansas, and though now living in California, he is still loyal to the old home state, and is glad to keep in touch with Kansas collectors. Whatever you may collect, whether sunflower seeds or prehistoric dinosaurs, or Quivira artifacts, or whatnot, let us know about it. Someday we are going to write a general article on Kansas collectors and we want you to be in on it. Address us, Box 775, Porterville, Calif.

Early Kansas history is our greatest hobby. If you have any old books or anything whatever on Kansas history, let us know about it.

Two of the most indefatigable collectors of Indian relics and explorers of archaeological remains in Kansas are Mark E. Zimmerman and Edward Park of White Cloud. They are continually finding something "new" along the line of the "old," and are ever alert and active.

Once in a while rural mail carriers find something to break the monotony. Earl Green, a rural carrier out of Atchison, a while back, found an Indian stone axe sticking out of a bank along his route. It was a fine specimen.

O. S. Whitcomb of Kinsley writes that he used to find many Indian relics along the Osage river in Bourbon county, where he lived for 32 years.

Clyde Wilson of Iola has a fine collection of firearms and weapons, one of the best in the state. It is insured for \$2,000.

Henry Small of Horton has a hickory bottom chair that is 95 years old. It was brought from Indiana 70 years ago and is a good chair yet.

A massive silver loving bowl, made from Mexican silver dollars, was lately presented to Acton Poulet, formerly of White Cloud, who for many years was head of the Standard Oil Co. in French Indo China. His associates on the Asiatic section bestowed the honor upon him.

Edmond E. Carson of Salina has a collection of rare out-of-print books, many of them centuries old.

A. H. Moffet, a banker of Larned, possesses a collection of Indian relics numbering more than 3,000 specimens, and which he has been many years gathering.

Mrs. B. F. Endres of Leavenworth, wife of Judge Endres, floor leader of the Kansas house of representatives, has been collecting antique furniture for the past six years and possesses many splendid pieces.

Dr. Evelyn Baldwin, member of the second Peary polar expedition in 1893-94, now associated with the United States meteorological division at Washington, has given his Peary expedition collection of curios and other valuable material to Baker university at Baldwin. Dr. Baldwin was a lifelong friend of Bishop W. A. Quayle, former president of Baker.

One of the oldest wholesale drug houses in the west is the McPike Drug Co. of Kansas City, formerly the McPike & Fox Drug Co. of Atchison. Frank Hunsinger of Atchison has a prescription book that belonged to McPike & Fox. Some of the prescriptions in the book go back to 1860.

An old-fashioned office desk, 138 years old, is in daily use at the Clint Howe store in Smith Center. Constructed of walnut, it was made by Clint's great-great-grandfather, a cabinet maker in Princeton, Mass.

Mrs. J. W. Malloy of McLouth has presented a United States flag that will be flown from the mast head of the frigate, "Constitution," better known as "Old Ironsides." As a member of the Women's Relief Corps, Mrs. Malloy has presented 500 flags to various organizations and ships in the past 52 years.

**CALIFORNIA NOTES.—By George J. Remsburg, Porterville, Calif.**

Miss Nell Lounsberry of Newport Beach is rapidly gaining recognition as one of California's most active, enterprising, congenial and popular collectors.

Harry Uridge of Fresno has a hand bill issued in 1833, calling a meeting in Cuckfield, England, to "adopt petitions to be presented to both houses of parliament for the immediate and total abolition of colonial slavery." Mr. Uridge secured the relic in England 30 years ago in exchange for a glass of beer.

E. Willard Spurr of Pasadena probably has the most notable collection of autographed photographs of notable people to be found in California. Spurr has won only three loving cups and twenty-three medals at various world's fairs and photography exhibitions and he also is an official photographic correspondent for the New York Times. Nearly every celebrity who visits Pasadena visits Spurr's studio, which is in his home, and he has hundreds of photographs which these sitters have signed to him in appreciation of his artistic work.

Drilling in the test oil well at Tulare brought up a definite stratum of burned redwood from a depth of 2,600 feet. Almost 1,000 feet higher, on another former floor of the Valley, perfectly preserved redwood, with no trace of fire, had been found. Between the two layers were many strata of sea shell and shale. Just how many thousands of years ago these redwood giants lived, and the nature of the upheavals that made an inland sea of the San Joaquin valley between the two redwood periods, is purely a matter of conjecture.

Discovery on the Bellevue trail near Table Rock, Sierra county, of an ancient rock crusher fifteen feet in circumference, a foot thick and weighing nearly a ton adds to the curios of California. The crusher shows no wear by time and elements. It is believed to be from seventy-five to 100 years old and used before any of the present pioneers of Sierra county reached that section.

The skull of a mastodon estimated to be 2,000,000 years of age, which was found imbedded in rock at Kettleman Hills oil field by Standard Oil company engineers, was turned over to Prof. W. D. Matthews, chairman of the department of paleontology at the University of California.

Prof. Joseph Grinell, curator of the museum of vertebrate zoology at the University of California was elected president of the American Ornithological union at the annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pa. He is the first man residing west of the Atlantic states to hold this office, the highest honor that American ornithologists can pay a student of natural history.

When ex-President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge were walking on the street in Los Angeles during their California visit, the former chief executive of the land threw away a half smoked cigar and immediately there was a scramble by the souvenir hunters. Reporters assigned to record the activities of the noted pair of tourists saw hands stepped on, some kicks administered and no little shoving in the battle for the cigar butt. A woman, who flatly refused to give her name, won the spoils, hurrying away from the scene with the remains of Coolidge's cigar in her handbag.

James Miller, 17 years of age, high school boy of Oceanside, has won an enviable record among his many classmates by killing a rattlesnake with a bow and arrow just before the rattler attempted to strike him. The snake measured three feet, six inches long and had eight rattlers. Miller, who is an adept at archery shot the rattler through the body, pinning it to the ground. As the snake writhed about Miller finished it with three other well-directed shots.

Lectures on the missions of California and his work among the Indians of Southern California are being delivered by Rev. George Doyle. He exhibits in

connection with the lectures, a collection of baskets and curios made by the Indians.

The skeleton of an Indian with a stone bowl inverted over the skull was unearthed two miles east of Helm, in Fresno county, by workmen engaged in digging a trench, a while back. No other relics were found with the remains.

Antone Busier, pioneer of Santa Monica, has long been retired from the active business of curio and toy-making, from which his ingenious craftsmanship and artistry won his success in life. At his home Tony still amuses himself with his genius for making curious ornaments. Included in his collection is a portiere made from old colored "funnies" saved from The Los Angeles Times, to which he has been a subscriber more than forty years. By making pulp of the paper he manufactured remarkably hard and enduring beads, which are strung astistically to make the portiere. The dyes used in the comic strips and pages have been preserved to give a beautifully toned coloring.

#### **HAS REMARKABLE COLLECTION OF GERMAN MONEY**

It would be difficult to find, in this country at least, a collection of German money as complete and as artistic as the one owned by E. A. Nieschmidt, who is one of the few exsoldiers in Lincoln, Neb., who happened to be on the other side, started his collection at Holzminden in a war prison camp where he was detailed to destroy money turned in by prisoners who had earned a certain amount and were being allowed to go. Deflation had just begun and in order to avoid complication a great deal of paper money was destroyed. Later he began saving money issued by the various cities and counties in which he happened to be. Every city and county of 20,000 or over had its own money and even large department stores and chambers of commerce issued it.

The collection is remarkable for its size, for its art in many instances and for its variety. The 300 pieces range in denomination from one-fourth cent up to five billion. Each is quite individual, receiving its inspiration perhaps from history, or from legend, tradition, literature produced in that particular section, or from some other source. One of the pieces produced here is based on a legendary quack doctor of the past, Eisenbart. One contains a picture of the university Mr. Nieschmidt attended. One is based on the famous ballad about Peiderlyng. The one showing a single soldier is a take-off on the small principalities which sent so few fighters to the front. One is shown because it illustrates how rapidly German money was being deflated. It started as a thousand marks, but before the engraving and printing were completed money dropped so much that the German word for billions was printed across the face. Some are allegorical and represent the reconstruction of Germany.—Lincoln Journal.

#### **NUMISMATIC QUESTIONS**

Where is the EDGE on a coin, border, field, reverse, obverse, year, legend, portrait, inscription, diameter, exergue?

Why is copper used to make alloys of gold and silver coins?

Why is tin used as an alloy in U. S. copper cents?

During the World War England issued all silver coins with an alloy of fifty per cent nickel, the result was that the silver shillings dropped down to 15c and the pound came tumbling down to \$3.52. What method did the government use to restore the confidence of the people in their money?—"Sparks."

In 1920 the British government recalled all the silver money alloyed with nickel, and the normal price of the shilling and pound was restored in a short time.—"Sparks."

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

### FOUND OLD ARROWHEADS; BECAME INDIAN STUDENT

Beginning as a hunter of Indian relics 22 years ago after finding three arrowheads while plowing in his father's field, Otto Wullschleger, farmer, who lives 15 miles southeast in the Black Vermillion valley, has probably gathered a larger collection of Pawnee Indian novelties and secured more facts about the redmen that formerly inhabited this region than any other person in this section of Kansas.

As a result of his efforts as a research worker he has been awarded membership in the State Historical societies of Kansas and Oklahoma. Living in the valley all of his life where the relics are plentiful and being interested in this line of work he has made many valuable finds and discoveries.

He recently went to Oklahoma where he interviewed various Pawnees. He learned the names of the rivers in this section of the country and state and why the redskins gave the streams the names which they did.

Wullschleger says that the Pawnee names for the rivers were descriptive of the streams. He said, "Upon getting these Indians interested in this subject of rivers I drew a map from my pocket. I asked them the names of the rivers of Kansas beginning at the western part of the state and north to the Smoky hill river. These Indians knew nothing about the Smoky hill or Kaw rivers. This may be accounted for in the fact that the Kansas Indians had lived in this valley so long that the Pawnee name had been forgotten."

He found that the Pawnee name for the Saline river, Kits-Kah-Eet, means salty water. The Pawnee name for the Solomon river, Kits-Pa-Rixte, means mysterious waters, which shows that the Indians knew centuries ago of the healing qualities of Waconda springs. The Pawnee name for the Missouri river, Kits-It-Ka-Da, means muddy water, while the name for the Republican river, Ke-Ra-Ru-Da, means sandy and gurgling swift flowing water. The name for the Platte river was recalled as Kits-Ka-Toos meaning a shallow low banked river.

In learning about the Big Blue river and the Black and Red Vermillion streams, Wullschleger interviewed an Indian man 80 years old. This old redman told him that the country between the Platte and Kaw from north to south and from the Missouri to the Blue river east to west, was the holy land of the Pawnee tribe.

"In this country were three rivers which were held in great reverence by our people," the Indian said. He explained that his people were religious even before the coming of the white man. They believed that God lived in the sky beyond the stars and above the sun. They looked toward the place into the blue sky. In the course of time the blue clay which was found in the hills along the blue earth river, the Big Blue river, which resembled the color of the sky, became a symbol of heaven. They did not believe that God could come direct to man from his dwelling place. He used helpers which were termed as the sun and moon.

The red clay which was a symbol of the sun was taken from the black earth Vermillion river. The mud from these three streams was used in their various ceremonies.

One of Wullschleger's valuable finds is that of an almost perfect Indian mixing bowl which has been hollowed out of solid rock. Few of these bowls have ever been found intact, it is said. They are usually broken and only fragments discovered.—Omaha World-Herald.

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

### INDIAN LORE; ANCIENT AND OTHERWISE.—By W. Straley.

A recent article in the St. Paul Dispatch says that the statement "Vanishing American" as applied to the American Indian was fiction and not fact. The author figures that there "are approximately 355,000 Indians" in the United States alone, "or an increase of nearly 111,000 in the past ten years." The writer contends that "health education has done much to reduce the mortality rate among the Indians, but even before these measures were put into effect by the government the Indian population was increasing."

The Fort Worth Record presented an illustrated write-up of the private museum and collection of G. A. Holland at Weatherford, Texas. Mr. Holland has the collection housed in an original log cabin of that section. The principal exhibits are pioneer relics, but he has quite a nice collection of Indian relics, among which is a buffalo robe worn by Cynthia Ann Parker, who was captured by the Indians when a child and was reared to womanhood as an Indian. Said "robe is still bright with the art of the Indian, the red, green, blue and yellow of its designs unfaded by the more than 65 years that have elapsed" since the wearer's return to civilization.

On a 50-acre tract near Santa Fe, New Mexico, a museum and laboratory has been erected by the Laboratory of Anthropology. Nearby is one of the largest Pueblo Indian villages, which makes it convenient for the student and research worker to study the Indian first hand. The building is in the Santa Fe style of architecture, "including laboratories, lecture and exhibition halls and facilities for graduate instruction in archaeology and public education in Indian lore."

George W. Finley, Ta-wah-quah-ke-nonga (Path of the Storm), a Peoria Indian, is writing a dictionary of the Peoria language, the same also being reduced to a "talkie" for future reference.

President Bizzell of the University of Oklahoma contemplates an Indian building on the university grounds in which to house the historical relics of the Indian occupancy of Oklahoma when it was all Indian territory. Some 200 Indians are at present students of the University of Oklahoma.

Kansas City Star: "Mrs. Lucinda Buckland, a descendant of Chief Ketchum, last great chief of the Delaware Indians, who once roamed the sparsely settled country at the mouth of the Kaw, died last night at her home at White Church, Kas. She was 77 years old. Mrs. Buckland was the daughter of Melinda Wilcoxon, a full-blood Delaware Indian, who was a grand-niece of the great Delaware leader. After the Delawares moved west of the Mississippi river and were placed on a reservation in Wyandotte county, Kansas, the greatest mediator between the white and red race was Chief Ketchum—so called by the whites because his Indian name meant "grab them" or "ketch them." He died in 1857. His grandniece, Melinda, married a white man, Rezen Wilcoxon. She lived with her white husband and remnants of her tribe until the Delawares were moved to Indian territory in 1867. The Wilcoxens remained in Wyandotte county. Melinda Wilcoxon reared a large family on the farm near White Church. She died in 1911. Mrs. Buckland was educated in the Shawnee Baptist mission, an early day school and mission for the Indian tribes living in the vicinity of what is now Shawnee Mission, Kas., and for the white settlers at the mouth of and along the shores of the Kaw. She leaves one brother, Oscar Wilcoxon, Iola, Kas., two nephews, Chester Wilcoxon, Iola, Kas., and Leroy Wilcoxon, White Church." Interment was made February 2, 1930, in the Grinter cemetery near White Church.

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

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Dr. E. B. Renaud, representing the Colorado Museum of Natural History, recently returned from an expedition to New Mexico and Oklahoma in the interest of that institution. He reports finding for the first time traces of the Old Basket Makers in caves near Kenton, Okla. "Relics found in the caves include sandals, bone beads, implements of bone, wood and stone. There are also seeds, bones of animals eaten by the Basket Makers and small corn cob bags of shelled corn and a big bag made of prairie dog skin containing corn on the cob. Fragments of the baskets, which served the Basket Maker Indians as cooking vessels, war jugs and all sorts of containers were also found."

In a prominent metropolitan daily the "We Ought to Know" column contained this question and answer: Q. What is an Indian giver? A. That is obloquy which no one desires to have bestowed upon him; for it betokens taking back what one has made a gift of, and that certainly is not only not commendatory, but it simply isn't done. Yet, that this is peculiarly a racial philosophy is indicated by the origin of the phrase. For it is an allusion to the expectations of the North American Indian when he makes a gift, either to receive one in return or to have his own present restored to him.

A press report under a Glacier Park, Mont., date line says that the congressional committee on Indian affairs has approved a move to make "Indian Talkies" as an historical event under the supervision of Major General Hugh Scott, one of the greatest authorities on the sign language of the American Indian. Authority has been given to recruit from all tribes of Indians necessary to aid in making the film. Much of the Indian's religious life and ceremonial rites will be introduced as subject matter in this notable record.

C. F. Collins of Kansas City has made a hobby of collecting books on Indians and Indian lore, particularly of those tribes who roamed through the middle west. He has 500 volumes including many rare and old books. Among his relics is the hunting knife of Kit Carson.—Kansas City (Mo.) Star.

### HAVE A HOBBY

Food, clothing and shelter are considered the necessities of life, but life demands something else—it demands a hobby. Everyone really ought to have a hobby. There is an urgent desire in all our lives for some real absorbing interest in some outside thing, something that is away from the daily routine of life and work.

A hobby becomes more necessary to us as we grow older. As our more youthful likes and dislikes are altered, as our companions are changed while the years drift along, we are bound to face a period of bitter loneliness unless there is something at hand which will gain for us a pleasurable means of passing our leisure time.

Hobbies are as different and numerous as people. There is the care of flowers, gardening, carpentry and the collection of stamps, first editions, autographs, curios, antique furniture, rare and original paintings and ancient weapons. Other hobbies might be cited as radios, automobiling, walking, physical exercise, tennis and golf, fishing, boating, bridge, visits to the sick, reading to the aged and playing with children.

If we really are interested and enjoy spending our spare time with them, any of these hobbies are beneficial to us. They tend to brush the cobwebs off our brain, give us a new perspective on persons and things, refresh our mind and body and put us in an exceedingly better condition to tackle new jobs with new energy and enthusiasm.—Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald.

**ST. JOSEPH GUN COLLECTOR HAS 500 RARE FIREARMS**

St. Joseph, Mo.—A gun collection of 500 pieces, some dating back to the sixteenth century, is owned by John D. Preston of St. Joseph, who started collecting the firearms fifty years ago.

As far back as he can remember he has had a hobby for collecting objects uncommon, and as a boy in Lee County, Virginia, recalls his pleasure in collecting colored stones and odd-shaped shells, and when older, the Civil War engaged his imagination to a great extent and his fancy in collecting turned to firearms. When he came to St. Joseph in 1880, vestiges of the "great early West" were still to be found here, and his imagination was quickened to the sagas of the "wild and woolly," and two years later he began the fine collection that is his today.

Mr. Preston says his collection has been gathered from far and wide and under many different circumstances, some very interesting, and the pleasure is equally divided between hunting for additions and mere possession. His latest acquisition is a blunderbuss brought to Kansas City from Munich. It was made entirely by hand in the sixteenth century and required the labor of a workman six weeks. It is less than eighteen inches long, has a rosewood stock studded with inlaid mother-of-pearl, brass and enameled discs and engravings of Turkish symbols on the barrel and breech. This gun was in the Royal National Gallery of Bavaria, saw service on the Turkish and Persian frontiers, and will still fire a charge as well as 400 years ago.

Another flintlock made in the sixteenth century is one that once belonged to a Russian nobleman. It is oddly constructed, brass mounted and the handle is ornamented with pearls. Of his collection of forty-four flintlocks, three were used by officers under Napoleon at the battle of Waterloo, and there are not more than six duplicates in existence. Three sets of his flintlocks were made in London about 150 years ago, but probably the oldest in his collection is a rare Chinese type with a brass stock and handle shaped like an extended goose head and neck overlaid with silver. It is a .40 caliber.

The most valuable pistol in the collection, aside from sentiment, is one of French manufacture which is overlaid with 22-k gold. It is of small caliber.

The smallest is a pistol one and one-half inches long, which shoots pinfire cartridges, and it would be hard to say which was the largest in point of weight.

One of the pistols valued highly by Preston because of sentiment is one presented to him by the late Representative Charles L. Faust shortly before his death. It is a .44-caliber cap-and-ball pistol and shoots six times. It is a Star with double action, the same model Jesse James, the notorious bandit, habitually used and had in his holster when killed.

Many Indian relics are included in the collection, among them a club more than 100 years old, several pestels, arrow heads, tomahawks and beadwork.

Among the early American relics is a hand corn sheller, the fingers of which are inserted in straps and the toothed and hinged iron clamped around the ear of corn. There is an old cow bell, a candle snuffer and many other pieces in the collection.

Mr. Preston now is engaged in making a catalogue of his collections for his own use, which will be a good sized book.—K. C. Star.

The U. S. Government gives full gold value in all its gold coins, then adds 10 per cent copper gratis, then pays the artist for making the dies and coiners for striking the pieces at a cost of several million dollars per annum.—Sparks.

## NEBRASKA NOTES—By S. P. Hughes

There is a movement on foot to lay out a scenic highway along the west bank of the Missouri river, and if this becomes an accomplished fact many readers of this paper will have a chance to visit old historical sites not now available to the collector or student following the main road from Kansas City to Omaha. Many of us are familiar with Mark Zimmerman's or Edward Park's discoveries in northeast Kansas or the interesting discoveries made near Rulo. This new highway will pass the home of the two men mentioned above and through many places of such historical interest as to make a stop well worth while. After crossing the state line the road will pass the immense rock shelter and cave near St. Deroin used by bushwhackers during the Civil War, the historic towns of Hillsdale, Aspinwall and Argo, now only existing in an historical manner. Brownville and Peru, also Nebraska City, are on the line, as is also the ancient site of Rock Bluff, thirty-five miles south of Omaha. Many readers are no doubt familiar with Sheldon's "Stories of Nebraska" and this is the same Rock Bluff heralded in such an able manner by this talented writer. The name is taken from the immense rock bluff that faces the river at this point. In ancient times the Indians used the bluff as a record of their achievements by covering the smooth face with historical pictographs from earliest times on down to the advent of Europeans in America. The same also applies to the sand stone cliff near St. Deroin in Nemaha county. The face of this rock bluff for more than 2,000 feet is well covered with pictographs, from the brave who stole a maiden from some other tribe to the brave who caught an enormous fish. In addition to the pictographs the early explorers from about 1800 up to 1830 had a habit of camping at these sites and also recording items of interest in the soft rock.

If any of the readers of this paper have any information as to the location of a trading post in southeast Nebraska run by Franklin La Flesche, the writer would appreciate such information. A large account book used as a daily record was recently given the writer and from matters recorded, the post was somewhere between Rulo and Nebraska City. The book is quite large and in good condition. All entries are in French. There was some sort of a post near the mouth of the Nemaha river in 1807, but there is no available record of who run the place, or its exact location. The book will be turned over to the Historical Society, together with a lot of other historical documents representing a local field.

On a recent visit to Fort Calhoun the writer secured a lot of old historical objects dug up on the site of this ancient fort. The find consists of over 100 different objects from gun flints to an old watch. Fort Atkinson, or Council Bluffs as it was known in the Lewis and Clark reports, is on the west bank of the river twenty miles north of Omaha and is the original council site mentioned in the early reports. It was at this point Lewis and Clark held a big council with the Indians in July, 1804. Later the war department built a large fort here and called it Fort Atkinson. At one time no less than 8,000 soldiers were quartered within its barracks. Much farming was carried on and as there was never any trouble with the Indians, business was quite prosperous. After the fort was abandoned, about 1827, the Indians were accused of burning the buildings. At any rate they burned down and as these old walls and foundations cover about forty acres, there is now a movement to acquire the site as a park.

The overprints for Nebraska and Kansas have developed two or three errors in the surcharge. The Scott catalogue lists one surcharge missing, but the

error seems to occur on all values. The second and most noticeable is the spacing. In the latter the letters are spaced so far apart as to make a line about twice the length of the normal overprint. Other varieties consist of broken letters and misplaced printing.

Letters coming to the states from Maracaibo, Venezuela, are now carried for 40 centavos in place of the usual 50 centavos for some time past. Venezuela is one of the few countries that has no postal system of its own. The concession is peddled to some one with the biggest pull. The lowering of the present rate came about from competitive bidding for this government monopoly. The post office does not sell postage stamps, but one who has occasion to invest in these little labels must hunt up the individual who has the right to sell stamps. If one finds him, well and good, if not, you get no stamps. The writer knows nothing about the plan followed by Caracas or Merida, but if the system followed in Maracaibo, the largest city in the republic, is a system, then the plan must be abominable in other places. Maracaibo is a city of about 100,000 people, yet its so called postoffice is such as one expects to find in our towns of 75 to 100 people. The mail is thrown out in piles and you help yourself. All registered mail is confiscated, or any other mail that strikes the fancy of the department. It takes days to sort the mail and as the owners of the monopoly get nothing for in-coming mail, they care little about its care or delivery.

Collectors in eastern states, and in fact those living outside Kansas and Nebraska, can not buy the state overprints by sending to a postmaster. The original idea was to trace all such stamps and at the same time the regulations prohibit postmasters from filling orders for these stamps when they are sent outside the state. If you want the stamps unused you must get some friend to buy them for you.

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#### **MOST VALUABLE ENGLISH COIN—SALE OF A FAMOUS PETITION CROWN—A KING'S CHOICE**

One of the few available specimens of the petition crown, the most valuable English coin, of which only twelve specimens were struck, is included in the extensive Wheeler collection sold in London. This coin, examples of which have on several occasions realized from \$1,500 to \$2,500, was struck by Thomas Simon in the reign of Charles II, when a new coinage was wanted to supplant that of Cromwell.

The honor of cutting the new dies was competed for by Thomas Simon, an Englishman, and John Roettier, a Dutchman, but though the designs of the former were undoubtedly superior, Charles, possibly because Roettier's father had assisted him financially during his exile, gave him preference.

As a protest, Simon designed this famous crown, which gained its name from the inscription round the edge which reads—Thomas Simon most humbly prays your Majesty to compare this his tryall piece with the Dutch, and if more truly drawn and emboss'd more grace fully order'd and more accurately engraven to releive (sic) him." Charles, however, ignored the petition.

There are many other rarities in the same collection, which extends to nearly 1,500 items. Especially notable are some fine examples of Siege money, or money of necessity issued by Charles I and II. This money was struck to supply necessary funds for carrying on the wars of those troublous times. The aristocracy and the universities gave up their silver and even their gold plate to the present day value of \$12,500,000, which was cut up into small pieces and stamped with a device and a value.

## HAS COLLECTION OF COINS

D. E. Kepler of Bridgeport, Neb., has one of the finest collections of old coins and paper money that it has ever been our pleasure to see. He has practically the complete list of gold pieces ranging from the twenty-five cent mite to the \$20 piece and all the others inbetween. The twenty-five cent and fifty cent gold pieces are very seldom seen, none having been made for a great many years. In these denominations, needless to say, the coins are almost paper thin and a little smaller in circumference than a dime. He also has quite a little of old Colonial money of various denominations coined before the Revolutionary war. He has many of the early American coins of various sizes and a wide array of designs. Many of the special issues of half dollars and dollars which were gobbled up by collectors before they had a chance to get into circulation are represented in the collection. Among these is an Alabama half dollar and several pieces issued in small quantity to commemorate different centennials.

In the paper money line he has a number of old bills, some of value and some quite worthless so far as legal tender is concerned. Among them are several Confederate bills, currency issued by the Confederate states individually; German marks; Mexican bills of many denominations; French money, and one of the new \$2 bills, in case they are recalled, as has been rumored. In the collection of money we found two-cent pieces, silver nickels, three-cent pieces, huge pennies, large and regular size dollars, and many other coins which are now far over 100 years old. Mr. Kepler has a collection that he has full reason to be proud of, for we doubt if it is excelled in western Nebraska, if in the whole state. Friend Dallas tells us that he has had some real offers for some of the pieces, some of the bids being as high as \$10 for a penny, but the coins aren't for sale.—News-Blade.

## PRICES REALIZED AT JUNE 7th SALE

For the interest and information of all I give a representative list of a few items and the price each sold for. All bids are per PIECE.

U. S. 1853 pattern cent. Proof .....	\$ 8.75
U. S. 1795 dollar. H. 2. ....	5.75
Byzantine gold soldius. Focas .....	6.00
U. S. 1802 half dollar. Very good .....	5.00
U. S. 1793 cent, C. 3-C. V. good .....	11.00
Athens tetradrachm. Fine .....	5.00
Roman 1st bronzez. V. good .....	.65
Scotts Gold and Silver Cat. ....	3.40
Brunswick-Luneberg crown, fine .....	5.00
U. S. 1928 Hawaii-Cook 50c, unc. ....	7.40
U. S. 1799 cent. Very fair .....	15.00
U. S. 1795 half dollar, H. 26. V. good.....	6.00
1812 Navy Medal, Bainbridge .....	4.50
Complete U. S. Commemorative \$1/2 set .....	2.26
U. S. 1815 half dollar. Ex. fine .....	26.00

M. H. Bolender.

Coin collectors do not want to overlook the fact that along with the issue of the special stamps for the Massachusetts Bay Colony that the Government is also minting 50,000 special 50c silver coins. We understand from news items that the entire output will be taken by a bank.

**FINDS OLD COIN**

New clues to early exploration parties in Nebraska may be uncovered with the finding of a silver coin near Fairbury, Neb., Nebraska University authorities believe. The coin bears the inscription, "Respublica Solodoren," and is dated 1795. Pencil rubbings of the coin have been sent to the University of Nebraska for possible identification by Bertha Akin, Fairbury school teacher, who in calling for exhibits of foreign money to be displayed in a Latin class, was attracted to the old coin, brought by one of the students.

Origin of the coin has not been determined as yet according to E. E. Blackman, curator of the state historical society, who is puzzling over the rubbings and sketches.

From the rubbings, the date, the inscription, a crown, a large cross, and letter S, and the amount of the coin, "20 Baz" are distinguishable. The coin has been bent so that perfect rubbings were not obtained.

The coin, which is slightly larger than a 50-cent piece, was picked up near the spot where several years ago a boy found an old bronze Spanish sword hanger. The sword hanger is now in possession of the historical society.

**GUNS, 110 OF THEM, FOUND IN JAUNTS OVER GLOBE.**

Elbert M. Howard stood one morning a few years ago at the west end of the Eads bridge in St. Louis. He wanted to get across. But he was "broke" and the toll guard was heartless. The money must be paid or Howard couldn't cross. Finally Howard became disgusted.

"I'll go around," he said. And he did. It took him two years to do it, and he had to go by way of Japan, China, South Africa and western Europe, but when he next approached the Eads bridge it was from the east.

This little jaunt was one of the two round-the-world trips which Howard, who now lives at 944 Armstrong avenue, has made during the forty-four years of his life. The other trip was made while he was with the marine corps from 1906 to 1910.

And on these travels Howard was accompanied by a revolver, a Colt .45 which was one of the 110 reasons why Howard and the author of this article got acquainted. The other 109 reasons are some more revolvers, rifles, shotguns and sabers which Howard has at his home or for which he is custodian.

Howard, by his own admission is one of the biggest "nuts" on guns which the city can boast. When his eight uncles returned to Indiana from their outfit in the Civil war they brought with them the weapons which they had carried into the south. With these souvenirs in the family Howard early developed a love for good guns and a technical knowledge of weapons and when all the guns and sabers were gathered into one house in Ellisville, Ind., together with miscellaneous other guns which members of the family had collected, he became caretaker, with the job of seeing that they were cleaned, oiled and otherwise kept in good condition.

But while most of the guns remained in Indiana, Elbert, or "Jack" as he came to be called, decided to leave, and when he was 14 years old he found himself in Medford, Okla., carrying a deputy sheriff's commission.

Then years later he was in Oregon, again with a deputy sheriff's card, when Tracy, one of the northwest's most famous outlaws, was loose. Howard was with a group of officers searching for Tracy to return him to the last penitentiary from which he had escaped. The bandit already had eleven or twelve murders on his record, so when the posse saw him, no one hesitated to shoot.

Howard saw Tracy first and was the first to get his shotgun into action, but Tracy kept on going. This shotgun is among the weapons which Howard keeps with him whenever he "settles down" for a time, and is one of the guns which he brings out first when showing his collection.

The next gun which he shows is the Colt revolver mentioned before. This one has three notches on it. One of these, Howard will tell you, represents a gambler in a joint west of Santiago, Chile, who came off second best in an argument and the other two represent men who didn't want to see Madeira elected president of Mexico. These two notches were put in the gun while Howard was with Gen. Joe Stanley, who was helping Madeira in his "election." For work in the campaign the Madeira government awarded Howard a medal, issued to "Captain Jacques Howard."

In addition to fighting for Madeira and serving an enlistment in the United States marine corps, Howard spent two years with the Canadians in the World War, before America entered the conflict, and served as an instructor of the palace guards in Panama and the Nicaraguan constabulary.

But guns aren't the only things Howard is interested in. His wife (who also is a good shot and who owns one of the guns in the family collection) has some old worsted and silk pieces which Howard likes almost as well as he does his guns. These pieces belonged to Mrs. Howard's mother, Mrs. M. E. Everitt, who had them with her when she made the trip in a covered wagon from the family's old home in Zanesville, O., to the new home in Berthoud, Colo., in 1865. —Kansas City Kansan.

#### **SITE OF SACRIFICE—SKELETONS OF INDIAN MAIDENS MAY BE SKIDI PAWNEE VICTIMS**

Palmer, Neb.—Where the ancient tribe of Skidi Pawnee Indians offered human sacrifices to the morning star prior to 1834 may have been discovered here with the unearthing of several human skulls of what are believed to have been young Indian maidens.

The skeletons were found buried in Indian food caches on the farm of Henry Gering by A. M. Brooking of the Hastings Municipal Museum, and George Debord, of Palmer.

For many years the Skidi tribe of Pawnee Indians believed it was necessary to offer as a sacrifice a young maiden to the stars in order to gain the better things of life. The girl was to be captured from some neighboring tribe.

In 1834 a girl from the Comache tribe was to be the sacrifice and just as she was about to be slain, a young warrior, named Pete-LeSharu, rescued her. Placing her on a horse and starting her towards home he defied the entire tribe.

For his bravery, some women of Washington, D. C., had a medal engraved "to the bravest of the brave," and he was presented it. While the site of the sacrifices has never been located, the medal was recovered by Alonzo Thompson of Fullerton in 1884, on the Debord farm north of where the skeletons were found in the caches and about three-quarters of a mile from the old Skidi village ruins.

#### **VANISHING COINS**

The gold sovereign in England has been practically displaced in circulation by the 1-pound currency note—just as the silver cartwheel has been replaced in circulation by the paper dollar over here. By the way, when did you see a trade dollar last?—Boston Globe.

**PERTAINING TO NEBRASKA FOSSIL BEDS**

At the Des Moines meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in December, 1929, Harold Cook described and showed pictures of a series of objects of fossil bone found in the Snake creek beds of northwestern Nebraska. Mr. Cook is inclined to believe that these objects show human workmanship and therefore prove that man lived in America even before the pleistocene or glacial period, for the Snake creek beds are pliocene in origin. This assumption that human beings capable of using tools lived in the new world many thousands of years before the ice age began is startling. The oldest implements which authorities agree are of human origin in the old world date from the early Pleistocene or late Pliocene and it is only in the old world that the earliest human fossils have been found. Thus, in general, it may be said that the probabilities seem to be against Mr. Cook's claim but it is certainly a situation meriting careful and unprejudiced investigation.

Whatever the decision as to Pliocene men in Nebraska there can be no doubt that the state offers a highly significant and interesting field for archaeological research in general. It is a region rich in the remains of pleistocene animals and considering the above mentioned finds in nearby states it seems very probable the equally important discoveries will be made in Nebraska. The archaeological investigations of such men as Dr. Robert F. Gilder, Dr. Fred H. Sterns, Mr. A. T. Hill and of Dr. A. E. Sheldon and Mr. E. E. Blackman for the Nebraska State Historical society, have revealed a tremendous number of interesting and significant sites extending from historic to very early times, and last of all one of the historic tribes lived here as evidenced by the round tipi rings and scattered implements.

This direct evidence of one culture above another, as well as the wide variety of pottery and implement types found in Nebraska, indicates that many other cultures are yet to be distinguished here. A careful study of the ethnology of the historic tribes reveals a similar condition. In their complex and elaborate ceremonies as well as their emphasis on corn-growing, the Pawnee show cultural relationship to the Pueblo peoples of the southwest. Such influences had also reached the Siouan peoples but in less degree for they had received their greatest cultural stimulus from the east. It is from this direction that the similarities to the mound-building peoples of more easterly states have crept into adjacent portions of Nebraska. To understand the archaeology of Nebraska it is therefore essential that we gain full knowledge of the historic tribes as well, thus working from the known into the unknown.

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In the last issue, 1930, of the Philatelic West I noticed an article in reference to the Ulster County Gazette. I have one as described by an old collector, viz: Ulster County Gazette published at Kingston by Samuel Freer and son, January 4, 1800, Vol 11, No. 88. No state given. This copy has a double column poem on page 3, also has top and bottom and outside and dashes with heavy black rules, and page one has only one black dash. It is yellow with age.—H. Lambert.

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A "wildcat" bank note for five dollars, issued on the Brownville, Neb., bank and land company, and dated 1857, has been donated to the collection of the Nebraska state historical society by C. J. Petter of St. Paul, Minn., during the past week. The certificate is well preserved.

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**300-YEAR-OLD- GUN COMES TO HASTINGS MUSEUM—WAS OWNED BY  
DUKE OF AUSTRIA**

A rare specimen has just been added to the gun collection at the Hastings Museum. It is one of the earliest types of match-locks and is known to be at least 300 years old. The barrel of this gun is over five feet long with a bore of over an inch. It is what is known as a rampart gun which had an attachment for a swivel near the muzzle.

For many years this gun was a part of the famous collection of fire arms owned by the Duke of Austria which previous to the World War was perhaps the finest collection of guns in all of Europe. When the war ended the Duke found himself bankrupt and was compelled to disperse and sell the entire collection. A part of these guns were sent to New York City and were sold by a mail order auction. Mr. Kirkbride of Bloomington, Neb., who has an unusually fine collection of weapons placed a bid on a number of these guns and after the sale was notified that eight pieces had been knocked down to him. When they arrived he found that there were two which were nearly duplicates so an exchange was made by which the Hastings museum obtained the one they now have.

Many new additions to the weapon collection at the museum have been added in the past month. Four old historical pieces were obtained from H. H. Lahr last week and not long ago an eight gauge sawed off shot gun which is reputed to have been carried on a stage coach over the Oregon trail was obtained. There are now over six hundred projectile arms in the museum collection, also about two hundred swords, bayonets and other varieties of side arms.

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**MUSEUM BEQUEATHED RARE COIN COLLECTION**

Udine, Italy.—One of the finest private collections of ancient coins, comprising numerous examples of gold and silver moneys of the Roman emperors, as well as Greek coins from the Hellenistic settlements in Southern Italy, has been bequeathed to the municipal museum here by Count Augusto De Brandis, a native of the town.

The count's collection also included a well-chosen selection of Etruscan vases, with examples of the principal periods from archaic to Hellenistic. These vases have been placed together with the coins in the Udine museum in a special room dedicated to the founder's memory.

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**OWNS OLD BILL**

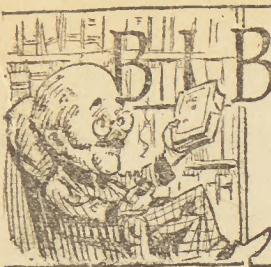
The majority of people find it difficult to keep money for any length of time, but Margon Calkins of Neligh, Neb., has a \$2 bill which has been in his family for 153 years. The bill, issued in 1776, was paid to Mr. Calkins' great great grandfather, Gideon Sibley, as part of his pay for service during the Revolutionary war. In spite of the extreme age of the bill the wording on it is plainly visible: "This bill entitles the bearer to receive two Spanish milled dollars or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a resolution of congress passed at Philadelphia, July 22, 1776."

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**HAS INDIAN RELICS.**

A. H. Moffet, a Lerner, Kas., banker, who has a hobby of collecting Indian relics, has 3,000 pieces in his collection. He added about 200 pieces to his collection recently when he visited in Arkansas. They were obtained in the Ozarks, near Dardanelle, Ark. They consist of axes, hoes, adzes, chisels, spearpoints, arrowheads and some pottery.

# BIBLIOGRAPHY



Under this heading we will answer all inquiries pertaining to books. Questions and answers of interest to subscribers will be published here each issue. Parties having interesting notes kindly send to the above.

Here you may range the world with the magic of a Book; plunge into scenes of remote ages and countries, and cheat expectation and solitude of their weary moments.

## RARE BOOK NOTES—By F. Christopher, 269 So. 8th St., Newark, N. J.

Refuting the common belief that a book to be of any value must be "very old" is such a recent book as the first edition of Don Byrnes "Stories Without Women," published in New York in 1915. Don Byrnes' untimely demise a few years ago left an aching void in the hearts of his admiring collectors who have had considerable trouble in locating copies, in good condition, of this book to round out their collections. Prices paid have not suffered thereby. "Messer Marco Polo," 1921, comes next in order of desirability.

Our forefathers had scant time for things considered frivolous. Nigh onto two hundred years elapsed from the date the Pilgrims landed until the first American novelist appeared. Charles Brockden Brown was not popular in the degree that Cooper and his contemporaries were later and would suffer oblivion were it not for the discerning book collector who has vowed to keep from extinction all that is good. This practically unknown author's novels are all of value and many a neglected pile of dusty books in attics throughout the land would disclose many more obscure gems of the same type. The titles and dates of some of Brown's novels are: "Wieland," New York, 1798; "Arthur Mervyn," Philadelphia, 1799, (Sequel) New York, 1800; "Edgar Huntly," Philadelphia, 1799; "Ormond," New York, 1799; "Jane Talbot," Philadelphia, 1801; "Clara Howard," Philadelphia, 1801.

Books whose intrinsic value is practically nil sometimes contain inscriptions in the hand writing of the great that raise them to the top flight as association items. One of the eight known signatures of William Shakespeare was found on the fly leaf of "Montaigne's Essays." It has ever been the writer's habit to glance at all inscriptions in old books and many pleasant surprises have been the reward, books presented by various Presidents including Washington, prominent authors and other celebrities have come to light. The rare signature of Thomas Lynch of South Carolina, one of the hardest signatures of the Signers of the Declaration to come by, is a case in point. His signature appeared in two places in a book discovered by lucky chance a few years back by its fortunate owner.

The Nebraska historical society has just received an unusual contribution in the way of an old book, "The Life of Christ," printed in ancient "Swabish" language. Ignatius Klima, Jr. of Ord has made the gift on behalf of the heirs of Thomas and Mary Vodehnal of Ord. The book has been in the family 175 years. No date of printing is given, but it is known that the book was rebound in Europe in 1847.

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**HAS 20,000 ARROW HEADS—OHIO COLLECTOR'S RELICS DISPLAY  
BEAUTIFUL WORKMANSHIP**

B. B. Thomas, a farmer who lives near Cleveland, has one of the most unusual museums in the world.

In a small building that formerly served as a drug store and physician's office, Thomas has more than 20,000 specimens of Indian arrow heads and other stone implements.

Thomas has been collecting Indian relics for years and has amassed his imposing collection for his own pleasure. He charges no admission to the establishment and has turned down tempting offers of persons who seek to commercialize the idea.

The collection of arrow heads is bewildering. Some of them are of exquisite workmanship and so delicately formed and of such beautiful colors that they could well serve as jewels.

In addition there are skinning knives, hammer heads, spear heads, hatchet heads, mortars for grinding grain, and implements that no scientist can classify.

Thomas believes many of the implements of unknown purpose were made by the mound builders.

Ethnologists in recent years have advanced the theory that the mound builders were simply American Indians who developed a higher plane of living through a different phase of culture.

But Thomas believes they were of a distinct race. He points out the superior workmanship of mound builders' implements in his museum, and he states that it has been shown that the American Indians, such as we know, cordially despised the mound builders.

One manifestation of this feeling of hatred, Thomas says, is the fact that when the later Indians overcame the mound builders in battle, they systematically broke up the copper implements, talismans and ornaments of the defeated enemy.

Thomas has done almost all of his own collecting. He asserts that the arrow heads of Northern Ohio, the Scioto River Valley, Southern Michigan and Southern Wisconsin show the Northern American Indian at his high stage of development.

Of the 20,000 exhibits, some 3,000 were sent to the museum by Elmsley T. Thomas of St. Louis, a son. A graduate of Oberlin college, Elmsley Thomas is a geologist in the employ of an oil company. The greater part of the stone implements gathered by the son were found in Tennessee.

To carefully view the exhibits invariably causes one to respect in no small degree the craftsmanship of the race that fashioned the implements. Some of the spear heads are made of pure white flint and are so symmetrically chipped that they are works of art. Besides the relics of the American stone age are sea curiosities, stuffed birds and animals and exhibits of other kinds.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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Just a little over a year old and has over 150 members in the Society of Penn. Archaeology. Dr. Mason of Philadelphia, Pa. and University of Penn., is president; G. B. Fenstermaker, vice president, Lancaster, Pa.; D. J. Eckman, Lancaster, Pa., treasurer. Any of West readers interested in getting information write G. B. Fenstermaker on membership committee. We are going to send information on excavations to members on Pennsylvania diggings.

**HOARDS OF COINS ASSIST STUDENTS—GOLD MOST SOUGHT  
BECAUSE WELL PRESERVED**

It may be doubted whether everyone, if asked to tell what Gresham's law is, could do it. Sir Thomas Gresham was the commercial adviser to Queen Elizabeth of England, and he formulated this law: "In every country where two kinds of legal money are in circulation, the bad money always drives out the good." It is quite true, perhaps, that he was but formulating a statement made 2000 years before his time by the Greek writer of comedy, Aristophanes. The Greek writer said in his comedy, "The Frogs:"

"The public has often seemed to us to treat the wisest and the best of our citizens just as it does old and new coins. For we do not use (spend) the latter (new, uncirculated coins) at all except in our own houses or abroad, though they are of purer metal, finer to look at, the only ones that are well coined and round; on the contrary, we prefer to use (spend) vile copper pieces, struck and stamped in the most infamous fashion."

In ancient days, when there were no safe deposit boxes, in times of stress, or in consequence of some anticipated war or trouble, the bad coin money drove the new coins into hoards which were hidden away, usually in terra cotta pots somewhere in the ground. It is the recovery of these hoards, hidden away centuries ago, that has given to one of the new classical sciences, numismatics, the most exciting part of its work.

It was the tendency first to hoard, and then to conceal, the newest and best coins that made the discovery of hoards so valuable, because the coins that remained in circulation became so battered or so worn that they often cannot be deciphered, and their scientific value is thereby diminished or lost. Sydney P. Noe of the American Numismatic Society, is an authority on coin hoards and his writings on the subject are noteworthy.—Allen.

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A coin in proof condition is one of that class which is prepared in the mint particularly for numismatic purposes. This is the highest state of condition imaginable and a coin in this condition has its maximum value. The planchet (bare piece of metal before struck) and dies are polished before the coin is struck (made) and this gives a burnished, mirror-like, reflective surface. Never try to polish a coin. The only time this could be done, is before it was made. A coin in uncirculated condition is one that is in just the same state or condition as when delivered from the mint. It must not be tarnished or blackened, but must have a splendid general appearance. The coin must be entirely desirable. Luster is usually abundant. A coin in fine condition is one which shows to the naked eye no signs of wear. They may have become tarnished or blackened, but seldom are. As a matter of fact, a coin may have experienced considerable traveling and yet be classified as fine if it has been luckily in good hands.—Bolender Catalog.

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While digging gravel on the Spence Farm young Martin Spence found an eight inch dagger made of flint the most perfect piece I have ever seen. He brought it in to me some time back. This was just south of Fairbury, Illinois. Where many fine pieces have been found.

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"The greatest book on earth," writes Congressman Ross A. Collins of the Gutenberg Bible, in the Vollbehr collection of fifteenth century books, loaned to this country since the war, and now offered for sale at the bargain price of \$1,500,000.

**ANTIQUE TABLE BRINGS OWNER PROFIT OF \$19,750**

Putnam, Conn.—Charles F. Swain of Pomfret, who collects antique furniture, and finds that wealth is to be found in it, sometimes, May 7 confirmed a report that he had sold a Chippendale, pie-crust edge, claw and ball table, for \$20,000 to a New York millionaire. He declined to give the buyer's name, as the transaction, he said, was a private one.

The table was made by John Goddard, a pre-Revolutionary cabinet maker of Newport, R. I. It has a top 32 inches in length, 26 inches in width and the table stands 27½ inches high. The surface is paneled, the corners squared, and the sides curved. The legs are curved and the bases are claws holding a round ball, this feature giving the table a portion of its descriptive name.

Mr. Swain says the table was in the attic of a relative. It had been neglected. He gave \$250 for it, or what he thought it worth as a relic. Later, he saw a description of a similar table which had sold at a very high figure. His own table he found was a genuine antique. The sale was negotiated privately and the table is now in New York.

The first public exhibition of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society was held at the Palace hotel, San Francisco on Sunday, April 27. It was held in honor of the fifteenth anniversary of the club. Between two and six p. m., some six hundred visitors viewed the showing of coins. Apparently a number of our stamp collectors are also coin fanciers, too, as I noticed exhibits from such prominent collectors of Dr. W. I. Mitchell, Ernest Wernstrom, William Wilson and half a dozen others. Mr. Wernstrom's display was easily the most popular one of the show as it had an appeal to the non-collector. One display was a coin zoo in which coins portraying animals, birds and fishes were shown. His treasure fleet was also exceptionally attractive as the coins in it all displayed types of ships. The wonderful success this exhibit made was due greatly to the untiring and efficient efforts of Mr. Wernstrom. Mr. Wernstrom has three hobbies, coins, precancels and stamps and he believes that each of his hobbies is worth the effort and time to let the public see what the delights of collecting them are. Whenever an exhibition is in the offing one can always depend on Mr. Wernstrom to do at least twice as much as any one man is expected to do.

—Gossip.

William A. Laughlin, whose advertisement appears in this issue, is one of our advertisers, who for years has specialized in rare antiques of ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome and Judaea. He has a large collection of rare scarabs, tear bottles, tomb lamps, ancient necklaces, bracelets, rings, bronze ornaments, ancient embroidery and a very fine line of ancient Egyptian amulets or charms. All are from standard collections, full data is furnished. From boyhood Mr. Laughlin has been a keen student of archaeology, and takes a great interest in satisfying his many clients all over this country. Just at this time he is reducing his collection and some rare bargains in many lines are to be secured.

The Nebraska historical society is the recipient of a medal which was unearthed about fifteen miles north of North Platte, Neb., by S. P. Whittaker. The medal, about half again as large as a silver dollar, was struck off in 1886. It commemorated the founding of Methodism a hundred years before. Though somewhat corroded, the stampings, "The World is My Parish" and "Founder of Methodism" are distinguishable on the face side of the token.

## LARGEST METEORITE KNOWN IS GIVEN TO THE FIELD MUSEUM

A meteorite, believed by officials of Field museum to be the largest single one ever to fall upon the earth, has been presented to the museum by Stanley Field. It was placed on exhibit.

The stone, known as the Paragould meteorite, weighs 820 pounds, which is 175 pounds heavier than any previously reported. It fell at Paragould, Ark., February 17, 1930 and penetrated hard clay to a depth of nine feet.

Dr. Oliver C. Farrington, eurator of geology said "This meteor attracted attention in three states, Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas. Its light was so bright that persons in St. Louis who saw it thought it was an airplane going down in flames. At Paragould nearly everyone in town was awakened by the detonation and livestock was stampeded."

## FRANCE TO ISSUE NEW SILVER PIECES IN PLACE OF PAPER

The French mint is at present coining silver 10 and 20-franc pieces to replace the blue paper notes now in circulation, according to a report received in the department of commerce from Assistant commercial Attache Daniel J. Reagan, Paris. The profits derived from the operation will be utilized for the amortization of bonds of the autonomous fund (former Russian bonds), now in the hands of the Bank of France. It is stated that these coins will be similar to the former 2-franc piece, however being smaller than the latter coin.

—Page.

## GREAT GUN COLLECTION.

The collection of Hill war trophies is the best in Nebraska, while the collection of guns is unsurpassed west of the Mississippi. Mr. Hill's Pawnee Indian collection is without doubt the most complete collection of Pawnee material in existence. The Hastings Museum, Mr. Brooking continued, number among its specimens the only pair of fossil moose horns ever found, and the only pair of fossil bison horns in the world.

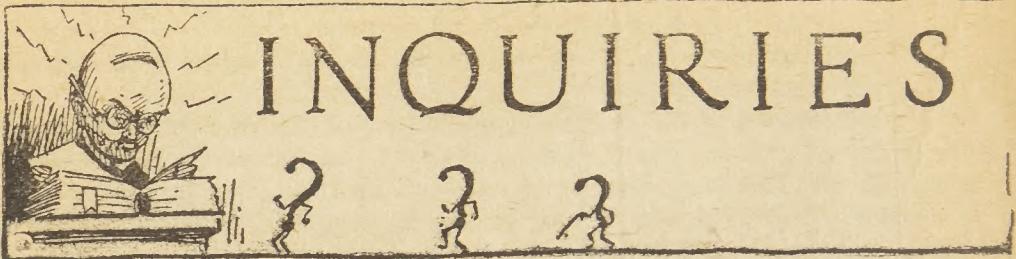
## HAS UNUSUAL COLLECTION

Yates Center, Kas.—George Gooddale of this city has a remarkable collection of relics. They consist of spectacles and scissors, 200 years old, hand made by a blacksmith in England, a tobacco box and penholder 100 years old, a Bible printed in 1841, a collection of rare old coins and many Indian relics.

A rare specimen of a Roman coin of considerable interest has been found by a peasant in a field at Capua, near Naples. According to the date, which is easily legible, the coin was minted in the year 286 ab urbe condita. On one side the coin bears the head of the goddess Roma, and on the reverse is shown the prow of a ship, the symbol of the maritime power of Rome. The coin, which has remained buried for twenty-two centuries, has lost much of its original weight, which was 163 grams; it now weighs 131 grams.

To know your stamps you must study your stamps. Only by studying them, and discovering all that there is to know about them, will you be familiar with the issues; and only then, when you have learned of the differences, the types, the variations, will you deserve the title of "Philatelist." Until you go to school philatelically, you will be but a stamp collector.—Linas-U-S-N.

The "WEST" beats stocks, take a bite, you won't get bit.—Sparks.



# INQUIRIES

It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over an issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will repuly direct.

Mrs. E. Schmidt, Bancroft, Neb.: Have dime of 1877. Is it of any value?

Ans.: No value above face, except proof uncirculated and brings about a quarter for proof coins.

F. Sprung, Bakersfield, Calif.: Where can eagle claws or talons be got?

Ans.: Think Stilwell of South Dakota, or may be some readers can furnish them.

T. Benes, Ceresco, Neb.: Have silver dollar of 1870; has it any value?

Ans.: Scarcity makes value, also demand. Age has nothing to do with value. Coins 2000 years old can be got for dime. Silver dollar if proof condition is worth from \$1.50 to \$2. All scarce coins have value.

O. K. McWilliams, Marion, Ill.: Where can modern Catawba Indian pottery be purchased? Understand colony of these Indians in South Carolina.

Ans.: Write to secretary of state historical society, that state capital.

E. Pettist, Sheboygan, Wis.: Is any value to campaign buttons from Lincoln down to present time? Also candidates of different parties?

Ans.: No.

Mrs. R. B. Balmer, Schuyler, Neb.: Have nickel coin date 1868 any value over face? Also all pennies stamped Indian heads?

Ans.: No.

Q.: Are one-dollar gold pieces being coined at present? How many are there in the United States Treasury?

A.: There has been no coinage of one-dollar gold pieces since 1899. At the present time there are no dollar gold pieces in either the United States Treasury or the United States Mint.

Q.: What is the largest denomination of United States paper currency?

M. E. B.

A.: The two largest United States notes are the \$10,000 gold certificates and the \$10,000 federal reserve note.

Q.: When was the first official postage stamp issued? A. W. J.

A.: The first stamp of an official nature was that used by the postmaster of New York in 1842. Shortly afterward the law of 1845 established uniform postage at low rates, and postmasters in a number of cities issued stamps on their own responsibility. Such provisional issues of stamps were made in 1845 by postmasters in nine cities.

Q.: When was the United States silver 3-cent piece first coined and when was it discontinued? C. A. M.

A.: The coinage of the silver 3-cent piece was begun in 1851 and discontinued in 1873.

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

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### THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

The motto of the Boston Children's Museum is, "Our mission is to reach the heart of the world through the heart of the child." In these museums children are satisfying their natural curiosity about the customs of other countries in a more tangible way than by reading or hearing about them. They are encouraged to develop their own hobbies, whether it be the collection of stamps, moths and butterflies, minerals, coins, dolls, what not. Boys like to examine models of cars, engines, airplanes and houses; girls turn to exhibits of dolls, replicas of tea sets, house furnishings and the like, although an occasional girl responds to the lure of machinery. We have a very interesting children's museum in our own city where both children and adults are welcome to spend hours worth while.—Indianapolis News.

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### DOLLS WILL TRAVEL

Miss Rose Riddell, librarian, has been requested by the Nebraska Library association to display the collection of twenty-six dolls from as many countries owned by the Columbus, Neb., library at the state convention in Beatrice Oct. 16 and 17. The collection is the only one of its kind in the state and has attracted considerable interest throughout Nebraska. Each of the dolls is dressed in the style prevailing in its own country. The dolls have been used in the children's story hour at the Columbus library to give the youngsters an idea of the styles in different nations.

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### THE KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

The library of the Kansas Historical Society in the Memorial Building is one of the finest historical collections in the country. It consists of 321,641 volumes. There are 60,158 books; 65,283 bound volumes of newspapers and 196,197 pamphlets. The library also has 9,795 maps and charts and 13,536 pictures. In the archives are deposited 599,505 separate manuscripts; 26,442 manuscript volumes and 370 manuscript maps. In the museum there are 13,456 relics and museum objects.

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### LAUDER'S 400 WALKING STICKS.

Sir Harry Lauder recently returned from America with additions to his famous collection of walking sticks, one of which was specially grown for him. For 15 years an American enthusiast tended the growing plant, and this year he cut it and presented the twisted stem to Sir Harry, who now has a collection of between 300 and 400 sticks.—Hobby World.

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### COLLECTS INDIAN BOOKS

C. F. Collins of Kansas City has made a hobby of collecting books on Indians and Indian lore, particularly of those tribes who roamed through the middle west. He has 500 volumes, including many rare and old books. Among his relics is the hunting knife of Kit Carson.

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Medals have always been highly recognized in the golden periods in the history of the arts and are just beginning to be ranked in America commensurate with their great beauty and artistic merit.

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Why not send your ad today. Now before you forget it so as not to miss some good sales. The next number is big fall issue. Will find better and finer and help you grow with us.

# Wanted---Rare Books

## AND FIRST EDITIONS

### Highest Cash Prices Paid

I am in the market at all times and will pay the highest prices for First Editions of Rare Books. Rare Americana, i.e., Colonial Laws prior to 1800, very early Indian wars and captivities, American explorations, pamphlets, almanacs, primers, etc.

Letters and documents of any Signers of the Declaration, Washington, Franklin and Lincoln.

I will gladly analyze lists of entire collections of books. Simply give short titles and DATES.

I will pay the highest market value for the First Editions, with the proper "points," listed below. The dates listed MUST appear on the FRONT of the MAIN TITLE PAGE. Not the copyright date and others found on the BACK of the main title page.

ALCOTT, Louisa M.—"Little Women," Vol. 1—1868, Vol. 2—1869.  
 ALDRICH, Thos. B.—"The Story of a Bad Boy," 1870.  
 BRYANT, Wm. C.—\* "The Embargo," 1808; "Poems," 1821.  
 COOPER, Jas. F.—"The Spy," (2 vols.) 1821; "The Pioneers," (2 vols.) 1823; "The Pilot," (2 vols.) 1823; "Last of the Mohicans," (2 vols.) 1826.  
 CRANE, Stephen—"Maggie, a Girl of the Streets," (By "Johnston Smith," yellow paper covers, no date.) "The Red Badge of Courage," 1895.  
 DANA, Richard H.—"Two Years Before the Mast," 1840.  
 DREISER, Theodore—"Sister Carrie," 1900.  
 EMERSON, Ralph W.—"Nature," 1836; "Essays," 1841.  
 HARTE, F. Bret.—"The Luck of Roaring Camp," 1870; "The Pliocene Skull," 1871; "Miss," 1873.  
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\* Anonymous.

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**For Sale or Exchange.** Six 1793 U. S. Cents in good condition for best offers in cash or Good Indian Relics. I want all dates of U. S. cents before 1825 if in good condition, also cheap lots of civil war revenue stamps.—T. O. Young, Box 734, Syracuse, N. Y.

**Wanted.** Books, Diaries or Papers of early travels in Platte Valley, Nebraska.—Geo. McVicker, North Bend, Neb.

**Want to Buy** Any Good American Antiques of any kind. Send lists with best prices.—H. M. Darby, Elkins, W. Virginia.

**Collection of Coins** from 15 nations for \$1.00; 5 different Civil War Bills for \$1.00.—Sidney Vanderpool, R. 3, Watsonville, California.

**Photographers, Sell Snapshots.** List of 100 Markets for your photos, 20c. Imported developer for films and prints. Sample for dime. Edward McKenzie, 30 West 18th St., New York.

**Wanted to Buy Civil War Cents,** foreign Copper Coins, and double portrait Coins.—J. R. Hansard, 430½ Elm St. Dallas, Tex.

**Ancient Stone Relics;** also Books on Indians. Yours truly, R. J. Tucker, 1715 East 19th St., Cleveland, Ohio.

**Wanted for Cash** Prehistoric Indian Relics. Write what you have, giving prices.—T. H. Wood, 286 Walker Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

**Wanted.** Coins, stamps, curios, antiques, firearms, Indian relics.—O. S. Whitcomb, Box 664, Kinsley, Kansas.

I buy books, pamphlets, photos, etc., of Lincoln sparingly; also some medals, at reasonable prices. I will be glad to look over a list of Lincoln items.—A. Griffith, Fisk, Wis.

Want to buy one or two dollars clearing house certificate issued during the panic of 1907. State price on same. Address Joseph Ford, Box 274, Missoula, Montana.

**Florida Sea Shells,** Corals, all Sea Curios, Butterflies, Old Books, wholesale, retail. Write.—W. L. White, Wauchula, Fla.

**What One Man Wants** Another has, and what one man has another wants. Tell it, sell it. Ever try West Want X Ads?

**Our New Fixed Price List No. 25** will be sent to collectors upon receipt of postage. St. Louis Stamp & Coin Co., 412 11th St., St. Louis, Mo.

**Duplicate Minerals,** fossils and curios to exchange.—Chas. Cawthorne, Clinton, Neb.

Here is That New Price List You Have Been Waiting For.  
Following is a List of Relics for MARCH OFFERINGS, 1930

## STONE RELICS

1 12-inch roller pestle, Yell co., Ark., \$5.  
1 9-inch roller pestle, Yell county, Ark., broken on end, \$2.00.  
1 11-inch Celts from Yell county, Ark., Mineral spots in it, \$5.00.  
1 rough Celts and Pestle, 10x3, Yell county, Ark., \$3.00.  
100 Celts from 4 to 6 inches 50c to \$2.  
12 War Clubs, groove in sides, 5x4, Garland county, Ark., \$1.00 each.  
50 grooved Tomahawks from \$1.00 to \$2.00 each.  
100 Flaked Double-bit Axes at \$3 a dozen.  
100 Flaked Double-bit Axes, made of black quartz, 50c each.  
100 smaller Double-bit Axes, \$3 a doz.  
300 damaged Double-bit Axes and Hoes at \$2.00 per dozen.  
200 Stemed Flaked Hoes at \$3 a doz.  
2 large Flint Blades, leaf shape, 7½x4, \$6.00 each.  
1 Large Short Pestle, 5½x4, \$2.00.  
1 Large L shape red Slate Pipe, \$25.00.  
1 small L shape red slate Pipe, from grave, \$10.00.  
1 Red Sandstone Pipe, (Kentucky), \$5.00.  
1 8-in. Chert Knife, rough, S. D., \$6.  
100 pink and white Arrowheads, \$20 a 100.  
150 white Arrowheads at \$15.00 per 100.  
200 black Arrowheads at \$20.00 per 100.  
50 beveled or rotary Arrows, 50c each.  
25 odd shape Arrows, 50c to \$1.00 each.  
25 hair pin Drill Flints, 50c each.  
1 Stone Pipe, not finished, all but stem hole, \$3.00.  
1 Large Granite Celts from Ohio, \$3.00.  
1000 Wampum shell beads from California, \$2.00 per 100.  
1000 Bird Arrows, perfect, \$10.00 per 100.  
200 bird Arrows, mixed colors, Separated, fine, \$20.00 per 100.  
500 Ore. Gem points, agate jasper, \$6 doz.  
100 Gem Points, Deschutes County Oregon, \$12.00 per dozen.  
300 Gem Points from Rautt County, Colo., 25c and 50c each.  
1 large Boatstone, sandstone, 4x1 3-4, chipped on end, \$6.00.  
75 Boatstones of different material, from \$1.00 to \$5.00 each—not scooped out.  
10 Hematite Plummets, \$2 to \$5 each.  
10 rough Hematite Plummets and Balls, \$1.00 each.  
3 broken Gorgets, slate, notched, one hole, \$1.00 each.  
50 Polishing Stones from graves, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 each.  
50 Balls of flint, may have been used as game balls, 50c each.  
2 Ceremonial Abalone Shell Gorgets from California, \$4.00 each.  
50 Rock Crystal Nuggets from graves, 25c per dozen.  
1000 fine perfect Arrowheads at \$10 a 100.  
4000 average grade mixed colors, \$4 a 100.  
5000 broken on tips, \$2 a 100.  
500 three corner flint pieces, may have been used as scrapers or spear heads, \$3.00 per dozen.  
150 Cherokee War Points from graves, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 each.  
50 Separated War Points from Caddo graves, 50c and \$1.00 each.

1 mother pearl necklace, Palestine, \$15.  
500 white trade beads from California mounds, \$2.00 per 100.  
25 gem stones, cut and polished Moss Agate, 50c to \$2.00 each.  
75 Pearls and Slugs, suitable for sets in rings and scarf pins. Two mounted, \$10.00 each. Others less.  
2 mounted Snowy Owls, \$12.00 each.  
1 Arctic Horned Owl, fine mounted, \$10.00.  
1 Great Gray Owl, fine and rare, \$18.00.  
1 Sharp Shined Hawk, fine mount, \$5.00.  
1 Rough Leg Hawk, fine mount, \$5.00.  
1 Screech Owl, fine mount, \$5.00.  
All the above on stands.  
1 White Pelican, wings spread, \$15.00.  
1 Northern Pileated Woodpecker, \$4.00.  
1 Male Pheasant, long tail, \$7.00.  
1 Red Raccoon Rug, felt lining, \$10.  
1 Large White Tail Deer Head, mounted on shield, \$40.00.  
200 Blunt Arrows, sometimes called scraper, 25c each.  
500 bird arrows, damaged on tips, \$2 a 100.  
1 Red Slate Tomahawk Pipe, engraved work, 12 inch stem blade, three inches wide, 5 inches long, Modern make, \$5.00.  
4 Man's face pottery pipes, Modern made, \$4.00 each.  
1 Beaver tooth, one Elk and two bear teeth, from grave, \$1 each.

## 100 PIECES MOUNDS CADDO POTTERY

From Garland county, Arkansas  
1 fine pot with fancy engraved work, \$10.  
2 fine bottles with fancy engraved work, \$12.00 each.  
1 gray color bowl, scalloped around top with a pottery pipe found in bottom of bowl, \$18.00.  
1 lot of 8 plain bottles, \$5.00 each.  
1 lot of 8 engraved bottles, \$12.00 each.  
1 lot of 8 small Vases engraved, \$5 each.  
1 lot of 8 large Vases, engraved, \$12 each.  
4 plain bottles without necks, cocoanut type, \$8.00 each.

## 50 PIECES CHEROKEE POTTERY

1 large, plain, short neck bottle, \$8.00.  
1 small, plain, short neck bottle to match, \$3.00.  
1 lot of small engraved bottles and bowls, \$5.00 each.  
1 lot of large engraved bottles, \$12.00 each.  
1 large polished red painted bottle, about gallon size, \$10.00.  
1 large red painted bottle, not polished, \$6.  
1 large red painted bottle, crack inside, \$3.  
1 lot damaged bottles, bowls, \$1 to \$3 each.  
15 pottery pipes, some damaged, \$2 up.

1, The American Indians, North, South and Central America. By Hyatt Verrill. 485 pages, \$3.50.

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Send 10c for new Ill's. Coin Value Book,  
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for sale or will exchange for items of Lin-  
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**I Want to Buy nice whole Arrow Heads  
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**Wanted: Good prehistoric Indian Relics  
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first letter.—Ben Nussbaum, Forrest, Ill.**

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Also want civil war revolvers and pistols  
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Give best cash price with first letter.—  
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C. W. Hamilton, Brimfield, Peoria Co., Illinois, will sell 8 room cottage,  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre; site, 2 miles, small house; large library, 2 town lots  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; 10 acres Indian camp large collections all complete. Fine for collector's or other home.

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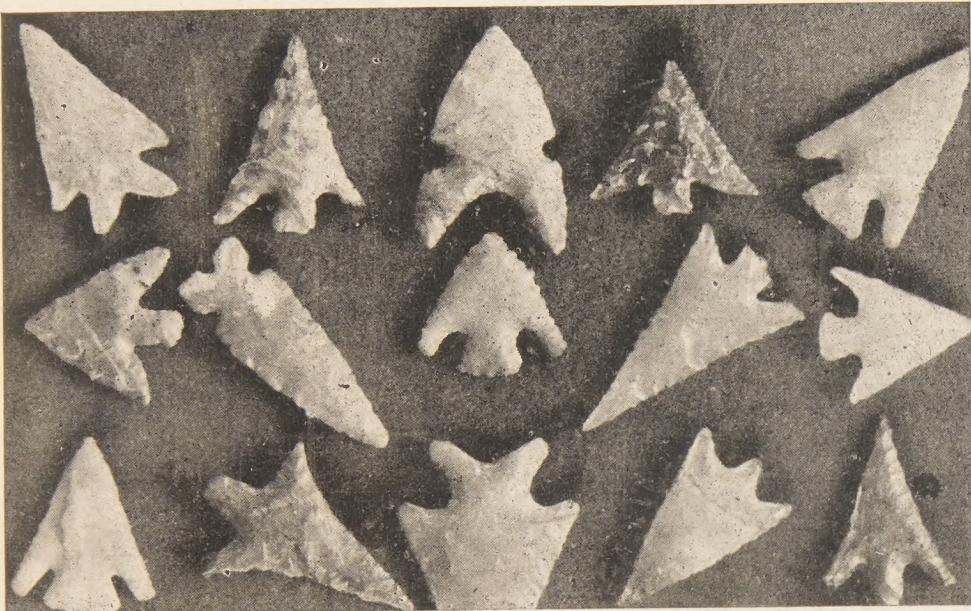
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Volume 88 Number 1  
Published Quarterly from  
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147	3c green .....	.90	295	2c Pan-American .....	1.25
158	3c green .....	.50	300	1c blue green .....	.30
184	3c green .....	.40	301	2c carmine .....	.25
206	1c gray blue .....	1.35	302	3c br. violet .....	6.75
207	3c blue green .....	1.60	303	4c brown .....	.75
209	10c brown .....	2.40	304	5c blue .....	.75
210	2c red brown .....	.25	305	8c violet black .....	1.10
212	2c green .....	.25	307	10c red brown .....	.60
214	1c ultram .....	.85	319	2c carmine .....	.15
216	5c indigo .....	7.50	375	2c carmine .....	.35
219	1c dull blue .....	.35	377	4c brown .....	.75
219d	2c lake .....	1.10	*385	1c green per 50 .....	5.00
220	2c carmine .....	.16	*390	1c green per 50 .....	3.75
222	4c dark brown .....	.75	397	1c green .....	1.50
223	5c chocolate .....	.85	398	2c carmine .....	.60
226	10c green .....	.70	405	1c green .....	.40
230	1c Columbian .....	.40	406	2c carmine .....	.25
231	2c Columbian .....	.18	408	1c green imperf.....	2.45
246	1c. ultram .....	2.25	*410	1c green .....	2.75
247	1c blue .....	2.40	416	10c orange yellow .....	.60
250	2c carmine .....	.40	424	1c green .....	.40
254	4c dark brown .....	1.80	425	2c carmine .....	.40
264	1c blue .....	.40	*441	1c green .....	6.75
267	2c carmine .....	.18	491	2c carmine .....	.60
269	4c dark brown .....	.70	493	3c violet .....	1.25
270	5c chocolate .....	.95	*487	2c carmine type II .....	17.50
272	8c violet br .....	.90	*487	2c carmine type III .....	3.60
279	1c green .....	.30	*497	10c orange yellow .....	17.75
279b	2c orange red .....	.85	544	1c green .....	2.25
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All the above unused. And now some precancels:	
Worcester 1/2c Hales 5c each, pairs and blocks in proportion.	
Worcester 50c, up or down, each .18	
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Wanted. U. S. Stamps, especially rev-  
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(Official Issue of the Dutch and Dutch Indian Governments.)

Gibbons Numbers M. 1-7

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AND

5,000 complete sets of Marine Insurance Stamps of the DUTCH EAST INDIES, unused, (7 values: 15 cents, 60 cents, 75 cents, f. 1.50, f. \$2.25, f. 4.50 and f. 7.50) at face value of f. 17.50 per set, expenses included.

After part of these stamps were destroyed on May 30, 1930, there can be in circulation at present: 3,800 sets, at most of Holland and 3,500 sets at most of the Dutch Indies, so that the total circulation, including the above offered 5,000 sets, amounts to 8,800 sets at most of Holland and 8,500 sets at most of the Dutch Indies.

ALLOTMENT pro rata will be made by Mr. F. L. G. d'Aumerie, notary public at Schevenigue, Holland.

Applications and Money Orders should be addressed to the  
**GENERAL DIRECTION OF POSTS AND  
TELEGRAPHS, THE HAGUE, HOLLAND**

stating clearly how many and what sets are applied for, Holland or Dutch Indies. Please write your name and address very legibly.

Applications and money-orders should be received **NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 4, 1930**, after which date no applications will be considered.

**Sets Left Over After Allotment, if any,  
Will Be Destroyed**

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Incorporated 1894

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Any quantity or values suitable for dealer. State number, condition and lowest price.

LESLIE KERR

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100 foreign envelopes, used, with stamps catalog \$2 or more, 50c p. p.

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The New Zeppelin Mail Catalogue 1931 in German and English languages free to my customers. I have a large stock of Zeppelin covers. Price list free. I make approval selections in Zeppelins. Write today.—Otto Edenharder, Muenchen-19, Germany.

Exchange British and French colonials with collectors everywhere. Wanted general selections and U. S. commemoratives.—E. Milne, 47 Wellington St., Halifax, N. S., Canada.

My Irish price list stamp and coin 1928-1929 and Stamp News 25c coin.—T. Tiernan, Windsor Terrace, Portobello, Dublin.

Magazine subscriptions at less than publishers' prices. Bargain catalogue free.—Elliott Donner, 246 Peshine Avenue, Newark, N. J.

Send 100 different prec. Stamps for 100 different good to fair stamps desired—C. W. Smith, Haverhill, Mass.

Free: Samples, lists, circulars and offers interesting to dealers and collectors sent upon request.—N. Joseph, 65 Walden St., Boston 30, Mass.

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100 percent exchange for your duplicate stamps cataloging 3c each, up. Full details Free.—Haskell, 158W Saint Botolph Street, Boston, Mass.

I have the following stamps for sale 23,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent U. S. internal revenue cordials, Wines etc. 1914 1,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cent same issue as above, and 11 3 cent same issue as above, also 2 10 cent U. S. internal revenue, wines 1916, all green. Got these off of old wine bottles.—F. W. Sprung, box 212, Bakersfield, California.

Will Exchange stamps of general collection for U. S., Br. Colonies, Portuguese Colonies, French Colonies, German Colonies or precancel stamps.—Thos. Delikat, Box 23, Hillside, N. J.

50 diff. Foreign Revenues for 10c, including my bulletin No. 15—O. T. Hartman, 3803 Humboldt St., Denver, Colo.

Stamps! By weight, from old boxes, mixed lots, old accumulations, old collections (which we tear up.) Stamps from the shelves, benches and floors, all go to the formation of this large General Mixture. It is impossible to calculate by numbers as there are old sets and many stamps on paper. British, Old Queens and K. Eds.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ —1/- foreign, pre-war, Continentals and British Colonials are in the mixture. Many good stamps in every lot. 1 lb. guaranteed unpicked, \$1.20. (Postage abroad extra)—Wallace Bros., 58, London, Wall, City, E. C. 2, England.

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The Irish Shannon Electric Power 2c stamp Sept., 1930. Six covers for 60 cents mo unused. Block 4 18c coin.—T. Tiernan, Windsor Terrace, Portobello, Dublin.

Want Red Cross seals before 1919. Exchange stamps, match boxes, coupons, precancel or coins.—Lyons, 1776 Mallary St., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Extra rare Zeppelin covers. I have a limited number of the South American Round Trip Zeppelin covers which show all the cancellations of every stop including all new Zeppelin stamps got together by a passenger on board. Price on application.—Otto Edenharter, Zeppelin Mail Specialist, Muenchen-19, Germany.

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HARRIS  
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Kansas and Nebraska surcharged stamps in pairs and blocks on and off cover, all denominations.

Send on approval, with price.

GEORGE H. BLAKE

12 Highland Ave. Jersey City, N. J.

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on even catalog value, send me a selection. Mention countries preferred.

MANUEL TORRES  
Congress Park, Box 6, Illinois.

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Only \$10 post free.

VINCENT  
Box 261, Haymarket, P. O.  
Sydney, Australia

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Printed By Our Ads. Who  
Seek To

SAVE YOU GOOD MONEY

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Unused Blocks of Four. Well Centered. (No Straight Edges.)

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614	1c Huguenot-Walloon .....	.25
615	2c Huguenot-Walloon .....	.30
616	5c Huguenot-Walloon .....	1.10
617	1c Lexington .....	.30
618	2c Lexington .....	.30
619	5c Lexington .....	1.00
620	2c Norse-American .....	.60
621	5c Norse-American .....	1.80
627	2c Sesqui .....	.16
628	5c Ericsson .....	.50
629	2c White Plains .....	.16
629b	Sheet, 25 stamps .....	1.25
645	2c Vermont, Sesqui .....	.16
646	2c Saratoga .....	.16
647	2c Valley Forge .....	.15
648	2c Molly Pitcher .....	.16
649	2c Aeronautic Confer. ....	.15
650	5c Aeronautic Confer. ....	.40
651	2c Geo. Rogers Clark .....	.15
654	2c Edison, flat plate.....	.15
655	2c Edison, rotary press.....	.15
656	2c Edison, coil, pair .....	.08
657	2c Sullivan .....	.16
680	2c Fallen Timbers .....	.15
681	2c Ohio Canalization .....	.15
682	2c Mass. Bay Colony.....	.15
683	2c Charleston .....	.15
83	2c Hawaiian on U. S. ....	.30
84	5c Hawaiian on U. S. ....	.80

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All for \$1.00 Postpaid

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Fairmount, North, Dakota.

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Against 2 dollar bill I send per return of post, franco regist, francoed with Belgian comm. 100h anniversary stamps, 1,000 well mixed, first class in perfect cond. postage stamps of Dutch, English, French, Portug. and Spanish colonies, Belg. Congo, Belgium (Oval and Casques), Italy Royal Wedding; Luxemburg, Persia, Switzerland (Pro-Juventute), Zanzibar, etc., many high values, cat. val. over \$25. Premium. 10 fine sets of 20 diff. stamps. Satisfaction guaranteed.

R. DELAHAYE

8, Square Albert, Mont St. Amand. (Belg.)

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10 lepta to 2 drachma complete, 10 varieties, fine used copies .... \$ .20 Will include copy of 4 drachma for 5c extra. Other values of this set at fair prices.

See other ads in this issue.

LESTER B. BROWN  
4561 Shenandoah Ave.,

St. Louis, Missouri.

Exchange of Zeppelin mail. For good unused stamps of all countries I will give in exchange same value in Zeppelin Mail. Write me.—Otto Edenharter, 44 Frundsberg Street, Muenchen-19, Munich, Germany.

Am collector noted celebrite signed photographs. Have movie star photographs, etc. Want precancels. Send lists.—David Bensman, Two Rivers, Wis.

Wanted—First Flight covers, experimental flights. Exchange or purchase. Letters by first flights appreciated.—John Angove, Westheath, Bodmin, Cornwall, England.

Nigeria ½, 1, 2d, 3d, 6d, and 1½, \$1 for 12 sets.—Harris, 43 Lightwoods Hill, Birmingham, England.

Old Spanish and Transvall to trade for coins, U. S. stamps, Indian relics, covers.—Box 14, Colvin Station, Syracuse, N. Y.

Booklet and Periodical Printing, at right prices.—Busy Bee Press, Blue Springs, Neb.

I Have U. S. Stamps to swap for British Colonials.—Sellmore Co., R. 1, Kimmswick, Mo.

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New Imperial, holds 3,500 stamps, now only .....	\$ .50
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Same album, but in loose leaf edi- tion .....	10.00

We prepay the transportation and mail all books with blocks of commemorative stamps.

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Send me your want list. I have helped others, I can help you.

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Whatcha got? Whatdyo want? Fine trial.

**SWAPPER SPORTSMAN BULLETIN**  
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1 lb. U. S. stamps 50c, 2 lb. 90c. Prepaid.—Norris Dullum Galchutt, N. D.

Fifty different foreign stamps for ten cents. Send for list of good packets.—John J. Conklin, P. O. box 50, Station N, New York City.

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Precancelled Stamps for Perennial Plants,  
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and receive old U. S. Covers free. Want lists filled.

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Try my approvals, 60 to 80 per cent off catalog and a further discount on sales of a dollar.

**FRANK REYNOLDS**  
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Exchange stamps with me on even catalog basis. Send a selection to Jerome Bulte, 2725 Morris Ave., New York City.

Exchange good stamps for Indian relics.—E. Goetz, 211 Florimond St., Chicago, Ill.

Zeppelin Cards dropped over Germany, each card \$1 only. I have Zeppelin covers from the trip to Paris, London, New York, Tokio, Pernambuca, etc. Write to Zeppelin mail specialist.—Otto Edenharter, Muenchen-19, Germany. This address since 1913.

Wanted—Tokens struck in metal, etc. (as used on trams, busses, railroads, etc.) Can offer in exchange samps, coins, cigar bands, match box labels, orange wrappers, etc.—Parks, Printer, Ivanhoe Press, Windsor Rd., Saltburn-by-Sea, Yorks, England.

Beacon Lights of History; Gems of Art; Disseminators of Universal Knowledge,  
Monuments of Heroes; Records of Industrial Achievements;  
Mute Witnesses of the Rise and Fall of Empires;  
All these and More are Stamps.

ESTABLISHED 1895

# THE PHILATELIC WEST

QUARTERLY JOURNAL WITH NO DEALING INTERESTS OF ANY KIND.

An Independent Publication Devoted to Best Interests of Collectors of All Kinds. Includes the New York and Omaha Philatelists, Photo Bulletin, Post Card World, Eastern Philatelist, Philatelic Bulletin, Juvenile Philatelist, Collectors' World, Curio Monthly, Redfield's Stamp Weekly and many others.

Entered at the Post Office at Superior, Nebraska, as second class mail matter.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** 75c and \$1 per year, \$1 a year with X Ad; in the United States and Canada; foreign countries \$1.00 and \$1.25. Please remit by money order or other safe medium. When renewing, state that your subscription is a renewal. If your address has been changed, give former address. We make errors sometimes. If you have cause for complaint try to write us patiently. We will do our part. Should your magazine not reach you on time wait 60 days before complaining, as causes beyond our control may have delayed it.

**ADVERTISING RATES.** 18c a line. Detailed rates upon application to publisher. Small ads column, 3c a word; three times for the price of two. Ads should not use more than fifty words of copy to each inch of display advertising.

**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP.**—In accordance with Act of Congress, August 24, 1912.—Publisher, Owner and Manager, L. T. Brodstone, Superior, Nebraska.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of October, 1930.  
(Seal) C. E. SHAW, Notary Public.

VOLUME 89

AUGUST TO NOVEMBER, 1930

NUMBER 1

## BETWEEN OURSELVES

Next is a fine, big, anniversary issue. Pays to rush copy. West wishes to make up time for delay by sickness in Europe, why this is later than should have been.

A. Weissman, Mo., says find West sure does pull. Could have sold car load.

A. N. A. just issued handiest membership book seen. Sorry stamp societies don't have similar size and style. Their organ reports West ads pays best for any paper.

Biechell, O., says misses West more like long lost friend. Thinks is finest collector's paper and worth its weight in gold.

Haye, Minn., says his first ad brought satisfactory results.

Wood, Texas, life subscriber, says don't want to miss a copy of West.

Karl Smith, commander U. S. A. in California, been collecting over thirty years. West fills big blank space in stamp world.

See ads Stamp Collecting. Vallancey and Harris get out best stamp papers in London.

Watson, Australia. My ad brings more replies than I can take care of.

Morris Jr., Pa. Well pleased with West. It's a dandy.

Hamilton, Ill. Been reader of West over thirty years. Is good one.

Where can you get more for your dollar. West makes special for two subs if one is new. For can send Christmas card so can help both out more.

A New York leading dealer says West brings most and best returns of any paper.

Why pay more when you can get West free with orders for other papers. Many we can help save so much may get dollars back on several papers. Give us a chance to figure on your combine papers. Send two subscriptions. Can get your own free for West and allow X Ad with each yearly subscription.

Have you seen America's story told in stamps by Edward M. Allen? He combines the story of United States with an account of historical stamps issued

to commemorate special events in American history. The young reader is given an opportunity to supply his own illustrations in spaces left for that purpose, thus acquiring a novel stamp collection while increasing his knowledge. Gotten out by the McGraw Hill Book Co. of New York, Whittlesey House, 370 Seventh Avenue.

Oakland, Calif., Philatelic society always seems to lead for third exhibition labels and style postmarks sent out. Sure worth while to get and see them.

Bracklein, Kansas City, says West best paper of its kind in the world.

London stamp club annual report at hand was opened in 1918 by Melville. Handy location for anyone visiting London, near Ludgate circus. Week I left entertained American Indian over 105 years old.

Lewis, S. Dak. Find West always good ad publication for collectors and ads.

Why not shop through West ads? Will find pays more than most any other one. If you can't find what you want why not try ad of your own? Twice as many readers at half the price. Have had many say, Pays Best By Test.

It will pay any reader to send for Grossman Co. New York City wholesale catalog No. 78. Most handy size and 118 pages. Hundreds of illustrations. It is worth sending for. See his ads.

Roedder, St. Louis, says he thinks the West is the best all around stamp and coin magazine ever gotten out. Doesn't want to miss a copy.

Reports are that no more two and a half dollar gold coins will be coined. Who has them?

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#### NOTES

D. Chichester and others of Lancaster, Pa., stamp club made a visit to Harrisburg stamp club November 17. They received a grand welcome and after fine dinner the tables were cleared and the members of both clubs displayed the prize parts of their collections. One member has the mate to Hinds' \$40,000 stamp. Same thing on magneta paper. One collector has beer stamps from No. 1 to date. He can get on cheap drunk every time he looks at them. He thinks papers should preach the gospel of hobby clubs visiting their neighbor clubs as it puts life into them and they get out of dry rut. Many rarities were shown. One man from Marietta, Pa., has U. S. collection of mint copies from 1847 to date. Single, pairs and blocks, many of them in whole sheets. That is a collection worth traveling a long way to see.

Did you ever see match box labels? I used to laugh at the idea. Never again will I do so for after seeing collection of wonderful lot of beauty, color and art all there and was very instructive. The labels came from every nation in the world with birds, beasts, flowers, flags, industries, costumes, both civil and military and maps, kings and queens. Words cannot describe its beauty or a small part of it. That collection has a liberal education within its covers. I could write a good size book regarding it.

Like to hear other readers write regarding other hobby clubs, displays or collections for West always thinks it is worth while for more local hobby clubs of all kinds.

---

#### A GLUT OF STAMPS

I have read your correspondent's letter on the glut of stamp issues from Latvia. The recent "Rainis" issue of Latvian "Air Mail" stamps was available in the post offices for a few minutes only—to secure "authenticity!" The entire supply was then handed over to a local stamp dealer as arranged previously.—J. Baughley.

**OUR ILLUSTRATIONS**

M. E. Hathaway was born and has lived all his life in this locality, started his collection when six years old, has every piece he ever secured. The U. of M. charts more mounds in his county, (Clinton) than any other county in Michigan. Last eight years he has been county treasurer and placed the collection on exhibition and it made a large number of people who had specimens look at it different and he has secured a large number that he was unable to get before. He has been told many times that he has the largest collection ever gathered from one location.

**NEW MUSEUM FOR CENTRALIA, ILLINOIS**

Our illustrations for this issue show a very unique museum building just completed. This building is the reproduction of the old Spanish missions of the S. W. in which Christianity was cradled in the new world in the 16th century. This is a beautiful fire-proof building of stucco and red tile with the Spanish architecture carried out even to the old Mission bell. This kind of an educational institution located in a beautiful park, open free to the public, speaks much for the city of Centralia and D. M. Hubbard, the curator, who is a naturalist of no little note and a veteran sponsor of free museums. The curator of this museum is no tenderfoot, having traveled thousands of miles off the beaten paths in the past twenty years collecting rare and interesting specimens which he has supplied not only to collectors but many have found their way into some of the largest educational institutions of this and other lands. This museum will no doubt prove to be the largest free attraction in S. Ill.

In addition to hundreds of specimens being loaned outside of Centralia it will house the personal collection of Mr. Hubbard's which covers most every line known to science. His marine and Indian collection comprises more than a thousand rare and interesting specimens from the large shark to the fiddle crab and from the smallest bird point to skeletons of prehistoric man which inhabited our land when it was a great empire before Columbus dreamed of America.

Many states, cities, organizations and schools are establishing museums for they have learned that through the study of the past and natural history specimens gives one a better understanding of the present. You also learn the language of the flowers, the trees and the birds, all of which have an interesting story to tell which if understood not only offers a rare education but brings out of a man that which is good in him and makes for us a better world in which to live, work and play. See his half page ad.

**NEW SPANISH STAMP ISSUE COMMEMORATES ADVENTURE OF GOYA**

A number of stamps of a new Spanish issue have been received by Muskogee philatelists and because of the interesting historical background of one of the designs they have attained considerable notice.

Probably the most interesting of the stamps which have been issued in commemoration of Francisco de Goya, is the one which is reproduced here.

M. R. Bebb, an ardent philatelist tells of the history of the famed de Goya painting which makes it so widely known.

The painting, reproduced on the stamp, is of the Duchess of Alba. While the picture was in the process of being painted, the Duke of Alba, hearing a rumor that his wife was posing for the artist, swore he would paint Goya's picture for him in the latter's own blood, Bebb tells.

Sympathetic friends tipped off Goya, so he stayed up all night and painted another picture of the Duchess clothed. When the Duke, who apparently was not

so impetuous as he sounded, arrived the next day to interrupt the sitting, there was his wife sitting demurely and a well-clothed picture almost completed.

Now the two pictures hang in a gallery in Seville, side by side.—Sent by Murchison.

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Mr. James Speyer, chairman of the finance committee of the New York museum, has asked Charles J. Phillips, New York, an eminent philatelist, to prepare for the museum when it goes into its new quarters at 105th Street and 5th Avenue, a history of the New York post office.

This history will comprise photographs, old prints, newspaper illustrations and what actual physical evidence exists today of various mementoes of the early postal days of the city in the form of early stamp issues, blanks used, the actual antiquated desks and chairs, sorting boxes, mechanical paraphernalia used when the city was young and the postal requirements were far simpler than they are today.

Mr. Phillips has been delegated to go to Washington with authority to confer with the postal authorities in securing what information and material may be available there.

A room in the museum will be set aside for this comprehensive exhibit.

The material the museum at present owns is on exhibition at the Gracie Mansion on the East river. It is expected it will be a year before the post office exhibit will be completed in the new building on Fifth avenue.

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#### HATHAWAY'S PRIMITIVE RELICS GAIN SCIENTISTS' ATTENTION

Who were here before we came? What manner of race were they? How did they live and when?

These questions, which the majority of people don't bother their heads about trying to answer, are a continual thorn in the pathway of scientists who seek to link up primitive man with present day peoples, and these scientists are being aided, to some extent at least, by the fine collection of pre-historic relics got together through long years of work, by Mark E. Hathaway, Clinton county treasurer. This collection, which is attracting the attention of archaeologists throughout this section of the country, is on public display at the court house in St. John's.

"Who were here before we came? This question," says Mr. Hathaway, "might well be answered by replying, 'our great grandparents.' Yes, this takes us back to about the time of the Revolutionary war. We can go back of this one hundred years to the pilgrims at Plymouth Rock and another hundred years back to Lord Baltimore and his Maryland and another hundred years back to the time when Columbus landed on our shores. History records these and subsequent facts, but what about the time prior to Columbus? "History tells us that at the time of the landing of Columbus there were about two hundred thousand people east of the Mississippi river but that the most thickly populated area was northwest America, there being upwards of two million people in this area. Columbus called them Indians by mistake, thinking that in his sailing he had reached the opposite coast of India and the name still remains.

"Unlimited study and research by students of ethnology, geology and geography has failed to show how long this race had been here or how many races preceded them and a great many conflicting ideas have been brought forward, but during late years students have proven beyond a doubt that America was peopled many thousands of years before Columbus landed. Back in some unknown time of this period is what we call the iron and copper age or the time

when primitive man discovered iron and copper and began making his implements and ornaments from the same.

"Some time back of all this is what is known as the stone age, or the time when primitive man made all his implements and ornaments from stone, or at least that part which still survive him are made of stone, nothing which could be intelligently translated has ever been discovered that would give information as to the dates of these periods, but they did leave behind them as silent witnesses of their presence many mounds and earth work designs, some evidently ceremonial with them, some battle fortifications and others burial places. Michigan at this time was thickly peopled and Clinton county must have been about the center of population as the University of Michigan has more mounds charted in Clinton than any other county in the state. These people also left behind them their tools of agriculture and implements of war-fare, ornaments and ceremonial objects made from stone."

County Treasurer M. E. Hathaway has made a life long study of these objects and during this time has secured one of the largest collections in Michigan which has been confined to local territory, one which has not only attracted the attention of collectors but also of archaeology students from all over the central part of the United States. It consists of about two thousand five hundred pieces ranging from the common arrow head to the long flint spears, flint spades, hoes, knives, scrapers and many other unknown objects of flint, while made from the common stone are the celts or head axes, grooved axes, tomahawks, hammer stones, chisels, gouges, dishes, bowls, pestles, etc. special attention has been given to the ceremonial objects made from slate stone as to their uses absolutely nothing is known. The Smithsonian Institute and other world authorities place them in what is known as the problematical class and then say probably of ceremonial or ornamental nature. These are mostly made from beautiful slate stone in a great many shapes, such as effigies, frogs, turtles, birds and other animals, bars, balls, tubes pipes picks, discoidals and a great many shapes which cannot be identified but all made with great precision and accuracy, polished and ornamented, showing that they were held in very high esteem by this ancient race.

This collection is open to the public at the court house for you to inspect and should you choose to do so, truly you will wonder, "Who were here before we came?" See his ad.

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#### HOW MANY EXIST?

Comparatively few collectors appear to be aware that there was once in the hands of a licensed vendor of stamps in New York City an entire unused sheet of the 15 cents with "inverted centres," but as he found them difficult to dispose of to the general public on account of this peculiarity he returned it to the post office in exchange for a sheet of the normal kind, after selling only a single copy to a philatelist named Rasmus, whom he probably thought to be a little mad. There was also an unused block of four in the celebrated U. S. collection of the late W. Thorn of New York, so that there must have been at least two copies of this and also the 24c. and 30c. "inverts," are in the Hind collection, and it would be interesting to know just how many have survived to this day in used and unused condition respectively. In a recently compiled list of the 100 rarest stamps, the unused 15c. error figured as No. 33 in order of scarcity.

Lots of collectors "go in" clubs for the purpose of keeping other aspirants "out" get away from that manger." Sparks.

**TEN CENTS GROWS INTO \$10,000—By James L. Wright**

When I find that a postage stamp, which will not even carry a letter, is worth 100,000 times its sale price there is no use for the interrogation point on "Maybe I am wrong." Being in the habit of banking on the bankers and going broke with the brokers, I went to see C. J. Gockeler, vice president of the District National Bank of Washington, who had just sold a ten-cent stamp for \$10,000, after having had Wall Street bankers and multimillionaires throughout the United States bidding for this little piece of paper. Mr. Gockeler was one of the organizers of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and I thought he must know something about business.

"It's the operation of the old law of supply and demand," said he. "There are only a few of these stamps in existence."

"I can understand the supply," said I, "but why the demand?"

"I do not understand that either," confessed the banker. "Youngsters start collecting stamps and multimillionaires pay for them. My experience in selling this stamp for \$10,000 has been a revelation to me, but I handled it just as any banker would handle a valuable article turned over to him for disposition.

Miss Natalie Sumner Lincoln, who is the author of a number of detective stories and editor of the Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine, was rummaging through an old wicker basket in her workshop, a basket that had not been disturbed since the death of her mother nine years ago. There she found an envelope, addressed to one of her forebears and in the upper left-hand corner was a stamp, one of the provisional issues of postmasters. The letter was mailed in 1847.

"Prior to March 3, 1847, there were no regular government postage stamps but by a law enacted on that date they were authorized. Uniform rates of postage were established on the basis of five cents for each 300 miles distance. About two months after the enactment of the law, but before the Government could get printed and distributed its regular stamps, the Lincoln letter was mailed. At that time postmasters in a dozen or more places issued stamps of their own for the convenience of the patrons of their offices. This primitive stamp was issued by the Baltimore postmaster and proved to be one of the most highly sought after stamps of all the United States issues.

"Miss Lincoln had no hint of the real value of her find until she began to get letters and telegrams from stamp collectors throughout the country, offering to pay her expenses if she would bring her stamp to New York or Boston for inspection. She then came to me as an old friend and asked me to handle it for her. I knew nothing about stamps or philatelists, but began collecting literature on them. I made Miss Lincoln promise that she would leave its sale entirely to me. Postal officials told us that stamp catalogs indicated the stamp had a value of \$6,000 or \$8,000. I decided to fix a price of \$10,000.

"One of the big stamp collectors from Boston wired me that he was on his way to Washington. I took him down in the safe-deposit vaults and let him look at the stamp. He said the price was too high, but he went to Miss Lincoln and offered her \$8,500 for it. A day or two later a New York man wired that he was on his way to Washington, that he would be in the next day, and asked me not to sell it until his arrival. After his return to New York, I received a telegram from one of the biggest financial houses in the country that \$9,000 was being deposited in a Washington bank to my credit, and that I might have it by delivering the stamp before three o'clock that day. A few moments later the local bank called me up to tell me that \$9,000 had been deposited there to my credit. That offer was rejected.

"I was next offered \$10,000. I told the would-be purchaser to deposit the \$10,000 in a New York bank with which we transact business and have them wire me in code. That was done. The stamp was insured for \$11,000, and sent to New York for delivery after the bank had transferred the money to me.

"The purchaser since has written me, 'The stamp was readily worth that figure, because it is the finest copy of this stamp in existence, showing margins outside the frame line on both sides, the left margin being the sheet margin. It was used on an envelope, and in this respect it differs from the ordinary copies found, which usually come on letter sheets. This usage shows a comparatively early date for envelopes, which were just beginning to come into actual use. The "Paid" is the regular Baltimore blue "Paid," and the rate of postage is quite correct. It is likewise rather a late usage for the postmaster issues, as the regular government postage stamps came into use about two months later.'"

So all you have to do to make 100,000 times the original capital you invest is to find an old postage stamp. Why worry about margins of profit and shaving costs when it's as simple as this?—Courtesy of Nation's Business, Washington, D. C.

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#### OAKLAND EXHIBITION

The third annual exhibition held October 17-19 under the auspices of the Oakland Philatelic Society was attended by slightly more than 4,500 visitors. More stamps were shown under glass than at the national exhibition held at Boston. Realizing that 90% of the visitors at stamp exhibitions are not deeply interested in the hobby an endeavor was made to have a part of the exhibition that would appeal to them. The real philatelist was not neglected, however, as some forty prize winning exhibits from the National Show at Boston were displayed as well as numerous exhibits from the west coast, which would do credit to any national exhibition. To create interest among the non-collectors and beginners, an exhibit by countries was arranged. One frame of typical stamps from each country was shown, many of these being beautifully worked out with maps of the countries. There were some fifty frames of the junior collectors shown and much ingenuity was shown in the preparation of these younger exhibits. As usual the display of stamp magazines attracted much attention. Few of even the advanced collectors realize the multitude of magazines exclusively devoted to stamps. One hundred different current stamp magazines from about fifty countries were shown. The magazine display does more to impress the non-collector with the tremendous spread of our hobby than any other feature. A movie-talkie news-reel was made by the Kinograms and Universal News Reels. These will be released shortly in every city in the United States.—Harry E. Gray.

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#### ANOTHER "FIND"

Stamp Collecting says: The days of unexpected "finds" of rare stamps are not yet past, it would seem. Only last week a gentleman strolled into the Bond Street establishment, London, and produced amongst other interesting but less valuable items which he had unearthed from an old bureau belonging to his father, a really nice copy of one of the rarest varieties of the United States—the 15 cents 1869 with "inverted center," catalogued today at \$1,250.00. So far as is known this particular example has never been on the market before, and in view of its exceptional condition, well centred and lightly postmarked, it may be expected to realize a high figure under the hammer.

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

### THE KING'S DISPLAY OF JAMAICA STAMPS—A POPULAR COLONY FOR SPECIALISTS

The popularity of the stamps of Jamaica with many philatelists is likely to be enhanced by the King's choice of this colony for his annual display before the Royal Philatelic Society, London, on October 16.

Ever since he visited the West Indies as a midshipman aboard H. M. S. "Thrush," their postal issues have always had a special appeal, particularly those of Jamaica, to which he has returned on two occasions. It is natural that they should form an important section of the King's unequalled collection.

As usual, the stamps were exhibited on his Majesty's behalf by E. D. Bacon, C. V. O., curator of the Royal stamp collection and a former president of the Royal Philatelic society, who also read an instructive paper on the chief points of interest.

Recent appreciation in the values of the earlier Jamaican stamps can be largely attributed to the intensive work of the philatelic society which has its headquarters at Kingston, culminating last year in the publication of an authoritative history of the Jamaica post office and its stamps, compiled by a committee of leading specialists, and to the very thorough revision of this section of the "Gibbon's" catalog by the same body.

Two strong points in favor of Jamaica as a field for moderate philatelic specialism are the absence of great rarities and their comparative immunity from dangerous forgeries.

The rarest stamp is actually unpriced in the catalog, but its value in the market is not less than \$500. It is the 1s. orange of the pictorial series, 1919-21, with the central vignette upside down, of which sixty copies are believed to exist.

Thence, it is a big drop to another scarce error, the "Serat" variety of the 5d. (multiple watermark) of 1907, listed today at \$150 unused.

The so-called "dollar" variety of the 1s. Victorian stamp with pineapple watermark figures at \$100 unused and \$50 used, but apart from certain rare "war stamp" varieties there are no others worth more than \$50 apiece. Consequently, a representative collection can still be gotten together for a modest outlay.

Counterfeits exist of the "twopence halfpenny" surcharge of June, 1890, and also of the local "official" overprint, but they do not present any serious difficulty to the student philatelist.

Until August 1, 1860, British stamps were used by the fifty or more post offices in the island, and a selection of their numeral cancellations should preface a specialized study of the distinctive issues which commenced on November 23 of the same year.

A close watch should also be kept for examples of Jamaica stamps postmarked in the Cayman Islands between the years 1890-1900, before that dependency was provided with stamps of its own.—By Douglas Armstrong in Bazar.

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Seriously, collectors, don't collect hit and miss; do it in an orderly fashion. Study the hobby or branches which you are following, buy what you need to make it complete, send out your own in future events and if you miss one buy it now; and you will easily double the pleasure which you will get from the pastime, as well as building a showing which you will always prize.—Linas.

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If you are a collector you need good Philatelic reading. Don't begrudge the little which each subscription costs. If you are to collect properly you must keep up to the times and no better way to do so than through the Philatelic journals of today. West, four issues for 75 cents.



# INQUIRIES

It is to your benefit as well as ours as when not sent thus oftentimes your answer does not reach me in time to be answered in the next issue and is consequently held over an issue. All questions relative to coins and paper money, curios, minerals, etc., should be sent to the editors of these departments. Owing to the large number of inquiries received it is impossible to get them all into print at once. Each must take its turn. At once we ask that you enclose a stamp and we will reply direct.

C. Madson, U. S. hospital, Ft. Snelling. Who can inform me what foreign countries maintain philatelic agencies and how they are addressed? Who knows?

R. Shank, Vannuys, Cal. What should Croix De Guerre star or plain sell at? \$2.

Mrs. G. Macumber, Gordon, Neb. Have two-cent, 1866, any value to it? Premium about 25 cents.

Dr. D. Schultz, Albany, Ore. Have dollar, date 1800; fifty cent, 1853; quarter 1800; ten cent, 1853; three cent, 1868. Any special value? Depends on mint, if D. value \$60, S. mint \$3.50, no mint mark \$2.25; fifty cent without arrows is rare one \$35, with arrow 65c; quarter, none coined between 1797 to 1803; ten cent no value; 3c at 15c.

Mrs. G. Eagle, Mt. Vista, Col. Have two of 25c bills, series 1874, any value? Depends on what kind. Is several dozen issued 1862 to 1876.

L. E. Gilham, Hay Springs, Neb. Have dime 1891, what value? Not any premium.

R. L. Steele, DeNova, Col. What is Columbian half dollar worth? No premium.

M. Lyon, Woodriver, Neb. What value ten dollars gold 1847. No premium.

Mrs. M. C. Nulty, Tarkio, Mo. Have two nickels, 1864 and 1865. What is value? If is silver half dimes is premium 60c first one, 65 at 20c.

Rev. Wilment, Lexington, Neb. Are there any Greenlandic stamps? Not that I know of.

J. King, Belding, Mich. Where can book "Cowboy Capital" be got?

H. Stahl, Crete, Neb. Who knows if Indian head pennies have any value?

H. Bubb, Chicago. Have collection old coins for sale. Try ads, helps sell.

W. Bisham, N. Y. City. Have four U. S. dollar bills, odd sizes with backs inverted. What is best way to offer so collector can get them. Try ad in West.

R. Jacoby, Kansas City. Have very large revolver, nine chambers, under it is barrel of small shot gun. What is origin and value of gun? See Saterlee gun book.

Dr. Dearborn, Portland, Ore. Have Gibbons girl china plate like new, had 24 years, has it any value as antique? Also have china and gilt coffee cup said to be 100 years old, also looks it. Plate copyrighted by Life Co. 1891. What reader can help the doctor?

Miss Jeroma, Schuyler, Neb. What value have old cents 1875 and 1886? No premium.

**SKILLING BANCO STAMPS OF SWEDEN, BANCO FRIMARKENA,**

This work, issued by the Swedish Postal Administration, commemorates the 75th anniversary of the first Swedish postage stamps. The volume deals very fully with the history of the so-called "Skilling-Banco" issue of 1855, the first type of postage stamp introduced into Sweden. The issue is a very interesting one, and all values, with the exception of the 4 sk. bco. used, are now rare. The reader will gather much information relating to the engraving of the dies, the various printings, essays, official reprints, paper, etc., and all die varieties are fully illustrated. Reproductions of the original notices and circulars, copious details of the postal systems of the early days, and an account of the Stockholm Local Post add to the interest of the work.

Unfortunately for English-speaking collectors, the book is written in Swedish, which will limit its sale in this country. But no doubt the keen specialist in Swedish stamps will desire to possess the book for its many reproductions of the early printings, etc. The authors are to be congratulated for a work of distinction, and a valuable contribution to Swedish philatelic literature.—Charles F. Ingram.—Stamp Collecting.

Mention has been made of the intrinsic value of an air post collection. In addition to its personal, historical, and philatelic worth, one can safely state that it is a pecuniary investment. Air stamps appreciate quickly in value because of their comparative scarcity. Flown covers are in increasing demand and all worth-while pieces soon soar in price, latest specimens from all countries are quickly absorbed by the world's albums. The potential collector who begins soon will be able to acquire many desirable items for a reasonable outlay. Today, there are hundreds of types of stamps and aerogrammes to be had at from a few pence to a few shillings each, tomorrow, many will compare in rarity with those of Cilicia (1920) and Columbia (1919). The greater the number and variety of items that appear, the greater their publicity service to aviation, and as it naturally follows, that they bring more collectors into the ranks, so will their values increase. Most specialize in Flown Covers and all kinds of foreign stamps.

**X AD Opportunities**—Advertising is the great bridge which brings seller, buyer and trader together. With many thousand people reading the West, this paper offers a rare chance to profit by this modern force. Have you anything to sell, buy or exchange? Do you want agents? Want to work up a nice business at home, through the mails? All you need to do is to tell your story, in the fewest words possible. The cost is 3 cents per word. Three times at price of two.

The so-called "map stamps" of Latvia issued by this newly-formed republic in December, 1918, were printed on the back of German military maps. The reason for this is said to have been that no other paper was available at the time. Many different maps were used, and specialists have compiled a list of these, and collections of every known map show that 228 stamps on the back of each map made up the complete sheet.—Australian Stamp News.

It is said that you can tell whether a stamp is engraved with the aid of a smooth piece of tinfoil. Place this tinfoil on the face of the stamp to be determined and run a smooth hard object over the upper surface of the foil. If the stamp is engraved the design will appear on the tinfoil. Surface-printed and lithographed stamps will not show the design.—Alcock.

## NEW CANADIAN SOCIETY

Last month a new stamp society was formed at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, when Mr. Lloyd W. Sharpe, barrister, was appointed first president. The first evening was devoted to viewing the very fine collection of Canada owned by Mr. Glassco; the next arrangement being for a visit from Mr. Fred Jarrett, the British North American specialist. The society is a senior one, but the membership is limited to twenty-five. Friends over here wish the Hamilton Society every success.—Stamp Collecting.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat of November 2 had a full page feature showing Mrs. F. Humphrey Woolrych, the first woman member of the St. Louis Stamp Collectors Society, looking over the pages of her album. The feature is written by Anita Mueller, who writes a very interesting story about Mrs. Woolrych and her stamps. A second illustration shows a set of 28 presidential town and cities postmarks, making all in all a very fine bit of publicity.—Mekeels.

American Philatelist says King Christian X of Denmark had his 60th birthday commemorated on September 26th with an issue of ten "birthday" stamps bearing his portrait after a painting by Axel P. Jensen. The stamps, produced by typography, while not very attractive, are nicely proportioned and bear the old posthorn symbol of the post office. They will be on sale for one year in conjunction with the regular postage series current.

Mekeels Weekly Stamp News gives a list of the number of state stamps which have been prepared by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. This list comes through the Third Assistant Postmaster General, Mr. R. S. Regar, and is therefore official:

	Kansas	Nebraska
1c.....	13,390,000	18,220,000
1½c.....	8,240,000	8,990,000
2c.....	87,410,000	73,220,000
3c.....	2,540,000	1,600,000
4c.....	2,290,000	1,600,000
5c.....	2,700,000	1,860,000
6c.....	1,450,000	980,000
7c.....	1,900,000	850,000
8c.....	1,530,000	1,480,000
9c.....	1,130,000	530,000
10c.....	2,860,000	1,890,000
 Total .....	 125,440,000	 101,730,000

Now our advice is to watch these state stamps, remembering all the while that this is an experiment and if it should be discontinued as not coming up to the expectations of the Post Office Department what a scramble there will be to fill in. Taking into account that most of the values have been prepared in lots of less than three million, that would be no issue at all when one considers that most of them would be preserved in a cancelled condition only. In this light consider the 9c value for Nebraska, which is 530,000, with the 6c and 7c almost equally as good, with issues of 980,000 and 850,000 respectively. Get them unused now, for even if many millions more might be issued one is not out anything, for they will always be good for their face value anywhere and anytime.—Gossip.

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### LESSONS OF THE LAST STAMP SEASON

Encouraging accounts are given by London stamp auctioneer, in his summary of the season 1929-30, just issued. Financial disasters, it is stated, served merely to demonstrate the buoyancy of the stamp market.

At the height of the financial panic which followed the Wall street and Hatry crashes, some extremely successful sales were held at their galleries, including the "X" collections (about \$50,000.00), the Pack collections (\$6,500 in one day), and the Zunz collection of Colonials (\$15,000). British Colonials remain the gilt-edged securities of philately, especially the classic issues of 1840-80.

Some interesting prices quoted are \$250 for the earliest known used penny black, one piece; \$600 for the £1 Victoria I.R. Official, 1884-88, mint; \$475 for a remarkable unused part sheet of thirty Japan 500 mons, imperf., and \$400 for a unique used block of 12 India 1 anna red, 1854, die III.

### DENMARK NEW KING CHRISTIAN STAMPS AROUSE INDIGNATION

Copenhagen—For the occasion of King Christian's sixtieth birthday, the Danish post office has issued a new series of stamps bearing the King's picture. The stamps, however, were so badly printed and so poorly designed that they have caused general indignation among the public.

One large firm has opened a singular campaign against the new stamps by refusing altogether to use them and, instead, sending bills to customers in envelopes with the following notice in the corner normally used for stamps: "Unstamped as a protest against the new ugly stamps. Postman will collect fee deducted from your account enclosed."

This campaign of protest has proved valuable advertising, numerous requests having been received by the firm from stamp collectors desiring letters bearing this unique imprint.—New York Times.

### DR. A. S. LOVING ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

The club is limited to adults interested in the various phases of postage stamp collecting. Other officers are: Carl Johanzon, vice president; Webster H. Merrick, secretary and treasurer, and Harry C. Warren, F. J. O'Rourk, Louis E. Putz, and Bert T. Wetterstrom, directors. The club will meet the third Thursday of each month in the Chamber of Commerce rooms. Adult stamp collectors interested in joining the club are invited to get in touch with the officers.

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### NEW AIRMAIL STAMP

Extension of the air routes to the Republic of Venezuela has resulted in a new issue of special air stamps from this country. The stamps show a map of the country with the towns in which airmail facilities are available. The statesman and patriot, Rainis, who was also a poet, and who, in his poems, urged independence for Latvia, appears on a new set of special postage stamps which that country has issued.

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### A STAMP WARNING

Stamp collecting readers are advised to beware of supposed errors and varieties in the recent Goya commemorative stamps of Spain, of which a number have been placed on the market. We are advised that these "errors" are not authentic.

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Don't grumble that business is bad—Advertise in the West and make it good. Many say West best by test. Ever try it?

## AMERICAN STAMPS AS A PAGEANT OF PROGRESS

Events which have made great changes in history may often be read in the ordinary postage stamp. Indeed, a stamp collection may be a veritable pageant of progress.

The United States is particularly happy in this respect, for now that anniversaries—centenaries, tercentenaries, sesquicentennials—are carefully noted by the Post Office Department, we have in our stamps changing historical panorama of great and growing interest.

The battle of Braddock's Field in 1755 is commemorated this year by a stamp bearing a reproduction of Col. George Washington's statue. This latest commemorative issue is red in color and its denomination is two cents.

This year, too, Charleston, S. C., celebrates the anniversary of its founding in 1680. A carmine two-cent stamp portrays that discovery, and also shows the famous products of rice and indigo. The 300-year anniversary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony is commemorated by a similar stamp. This shows an Indian standing beside an oval upon which is written the Latin inscription of the colony.

Last year many interesting stamps were issued. A red and black two-cent stamp showed George Rogers Clark in the pioneer stockade at Vincennes. Our regular two-cent stamp was surcharged in black with the words "Molly Pitcher" to honor the memory of the gallant wife of a Revolutionary cannoneer who took his place at the guns. Another Colonial, Major-General Sullivan of the 1779 Expedition, was pictured with his flintlock rifle on a special two-cent issue. Still another stamp featured a memorial to General Anthony Wayne.

In 1879, Thomas A. Edison invented the electric lamp. A lamp, celebrating the Golden Jubilee of this wonderful invention was shown on another 1929 stamp. Still another stamp of this year, featuring the Ohio River celebration, depicted a famous river steamboat entering one of the locks that assist in keeping the Ohio at a nine-foot stage.

In 1928, Valley Forge was represented by a kneeling George Washington. On another stamp was the scene of General Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga. The Vermont Sesquicentennial stamp shows a leather-clad Vermont rifleman at Bennington. Previous commemorative issues in 1926 were: the cannoneers in action at the battle of White Plains, the Liberty Bell stamp for the Philadelphia Exposition, and the 5-cent lavender John Ericson memorial stamp. There was a striking black and red stamp for the Norse-American centennial, and several scenic ones for the Lexington-Concord issue.

In 1920, the Pilgrim tercentenary was commemorated in green, red, and blue stamps—1, 2 and 5 cents in value. In 1924, appeared a Huguenot-Walloon anniversary stamp. In 1915 the San Francisco Exposition series was issued, picturing Balboa, the Locks at Gatun, Panama Canal, the Golden Gate, and the discovery of San Francisco Bay. Other stamps of this kind were the Hudson-Fulton celebration with Hendrik Hudson's ship, the Half Moon, and Fulton's first steamship, the Clermont.

Jamestown, Virginia, celebrated its founding in 1907. A stamp issue bearing the likenesses of Pocahontas, Capt. John Smith, and depicting the founding of the town commemorated the festivities. The Alaska-Yukon stamp showed William Seward's profile, while the 1898 Trans-Mississippi issue delineated Marquette on the Mississippi and Fremont in the Rocky Mountains.

The 1893, or Columbian issue, made a complete story of Christopher Columbus' efforts to discover a new route to the Indies. His fleet of three caravels,

his pleading for funds before Queen Isabeila, his endeavor at the Convent of La Rabida to prove that the world was round, and his display of Indians before the Spanish court are shown, with other events of his discoveries, most of the engravings being copies from famous paintings and statuary.

When the parcels post system was begun, a series of carmine stamps was issued. Later this was withdrawn and regular postage substituted. This first issue is valuable today, not only because it possesses collector's interest, but also because of its scenic representation of progress in our mails. The methods on the individual stamps are by carrier, truck, train, steamship, rural wagon, and biplane.

The rapid rise of the airplane industry and its use in the transportation of mail is reflected in numerous airplane and air mail stamps. These began with a series of stamps in 1920 showing a biplane in flight. The six-cent was a deep yellow, while the twenty-four-cent was a scheme of carmine and ultramarine. Later came an eight-cent green stamp, nearly square, with a conventionalized propeller and radiator.

More recently we had the commemoration of Colonel Lindbergh's flight to Paris with the issue of a rectangular blue ten-cent stamp engraved with the Spirit of St. Louis in flight over the Atlantic. A later stamp portrayed a map of the United States with two mail planes flying toward each other. A fifteen-cent stamp in light brown and a twenty-cent in light green are also members of that issue. In use now is a larger five-cent stamp in blue and red.

Some time ago in commemoration of the Wright brothers flight in their glider at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, a 1928 series entitled "International Civil Aeronautics Conference," was printed. The two-cent shows the original glider in flight, and the five-cent a view of Washington with a modern airplane in flight over it.

The progress of inventions makes an interesting story. The 1898 issues of documentary and proprietary stamps portrayed a battleship of the Spanish-American War. We await more modern ships. A humorous touch in the 1901 regular issue showed an early electric runabout with derbied drivers on its high front seat. A small locomotive and a steamship are in that same series. An 1869 locomotive on the three-cent blue stamp of '69 is of the Civil War type, with antiquated tender, small wheels and funneled stack.

Our special delivery stamps show considerable progress in delivery methods. First, the messenger boy on foot; next, on a bicycle; thirdly, on a motorcycle. The fast parcels post truck appears on the 20-cent black.

Stamps portraying our national heroes and presidents are so well known that they require little mention. Webster, Hayes, Garfield, Franklin, Washington, Lincoln, Hale, Grant, Jefferson Roosevelt, McKinley, Martha Washington—now supplanted by the William Howard Taft new four-cent brown—Jackson, Wilson, are all shown in this gallery. Even the American Indian is not forgotten, nor should he be, for he is the first real American and we owe him much. He is present in full headdress on the 14-cent stamp of the present issue. His meat supply, the bison or buffalo, is on the 30-cent chocolate.

Nor is our national architecture neglected, for the Statue of Liberty, the International Bridge at Niagara Falls, the Lincoln Memorial and the Arlington Amphitheater are all to be found on our stamps.—Monitor.

#### SUGGESTION FOR A FRANCO-ITALIAN AMITY STAMP

To be printed in pairs—Briand on the 1 franc and Mussolini on the 1 lira, imperforate between. Compulsory use in both countries.—Southern Philatelist.

**STAMPS AS THE WORLD'S NEWSPAPERS—By Douglas Armstrong.**

Not the least fascinating aspect of stamp collecting lies in its topicality. A large proportion of the postage stamps issued throughout the world have a direct bearing upon the news of the day, and the collector who maintains an intelligent association between his daily paper and his stamp album has his interest quickened in the affairs of the nations and derives an added appreciation of his collection.

Several events recently in the "news" are recorded in stamps. Belgium has just celebrated the centenary of her independence, and since no such occasion appears to be complete nowadays without its issue of postage stamps a commemorative set of three values was put on sale on July 1.

It is becoming more and more the fashion to draw upon famous works of art for modern stamp designs, and in this instance two eminent Belgian portrait painters have been laid under contribution, M. Lievin de Winne, whose full length painting of Leopold I, King of the Belgians, in the national museum at Ghent is reproduced upon the 60 centimes stamp, printed in purple-brown and M. Jef Lempoels, who was responsible for the original portrait of King Leopold II, upon the 1 franc scarlet.

A modern likeness of King Albert in military uniform upon the stamp of 1fr. 75c. deep blue, completes the philatelic gallery of the three kings of Belgium.

Dynastic changes lead inevitably to philatelic developments. The return of King Carol II to Roumania, his reconciliation with his family and his succession to the throne in place of his infant son Michael, were likewise marked by the overprinting of the current Roumanian stamps.

Representatives of the parliaments of all nations attended the ceremonies held at Thingvallir (Iceland) in June in honor of the millenary of the oldest parliamentary institution in the world, the Icelandic "Althing." A feature of the celebrations was the issue of a set of commemorative stamps available for aerial postage in appropriate designs by the native artist Tryggir Magnussen, showing aeroplanes in flight over local views, surrounded by an emblematic border containing the dates "930-1930."

It is even rumored that the Australian government proposes to introduce a special air mail stamp in recognition of the aerial exploits of Miss Amy Johnson.—Bazar.

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**PICTURE MADE OF STAMPS**

Recently an American offered \$50,000 for a curious copy of Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper," to be seen at the Catholic orphanage at Speising, a south-western suburb of Vienna. The copy, which is made entirely of stamps, is the lifework of Brother Karolus Stoss, who taught drawing at the orphanage and later on became its secretary. In that capacity he was able to collect for several years all the stamps of the correspondence of his brethren's congregations all over the world, until he held some 12,000 stamps of all countries and colors. With much pains he stuck his treasures together on a thin wooden board, until they formed "The Last Supper."

This strange "picture," which is kept under glass, gives the impression of an excellent copy of the old master-piece. It measures 64 inches by 32, and in its ebony frame 88 by 48. Brother Karolus Stoss worked at the copy from 1885 until 1890. Finally he fell into a melancholia and became insane. The Brethren have refused to part with their "picture," and declined the American offer.—London paper.

**LURE OF STAMP COLLECTING—By N. R. Hoover**

I think you would be interested in hearing of some valuable finds in these envelopes with old stamps on them.

The most striking find in a stamp of value was that of Miss Natalia Sumner Lincoln of Washington, D. C. Miss Lincoln is a writer of detective fiction, incidentally browsing through some old papers that belonged to her father, she found a perfect copy of the 10-cent James M. Buchanan, Baltimore, Md., provisional of 1845, bluish paper on an envelope, also in excellent condition. The letter had been addressed to Miss Lincoln's grandfather, Nathan Smith Lincoln by his uncle who in the letter told his nephew he was sorry he could not attend the young man's graduation exercises at Dartmouth College. These Buchanan provisionals are very scarce. Miss Lincoln sold that envelope and stamp for exactly \$10,000.00, it now being in the collection of Mr. A. H. Caspary. The incident occurred in March this year, only a short time ago.

Now, after you have digested that one, may I tell you the story of Mr. E. D. Hemingway of Philadelphia, who, since 1905, has been selling envelopes and stamps from a lot he bought for \$26.00. A firm of bankers was moving its offices. After taking away their old books and papers they left behind a vast quantity of letters which they told the janitor of the building to throw in the waste. He sold the wastepaper to this man Hemingway. The latter realizing, after he had examined the pile, that he might have something worthwhile, sold the contents of the letters from famous persons from 1812, down to date in these files to the University of Pennsylvania, and the envelopes with stamps on them to stamp collectors. Mr. Chas. J. Phillips says he was told that Mr. Hemingway recently sold the last of the big accumulation and the total received was \$70,000.00 on an original investment of \$26.00. It is almost unbelievable.

Here is another true tale: A block of 27 Pan American, 1901 stamps, printed in two colors as some of you old listeners may recall, but a few sheets of which had been printed with the center color upside down in error, was offered at the rate of \$3 each to Stamp Co. The proprietor, fearful that there would be plenty more of the same error offered, refused them. Today that stamp sells for \$250.00 and there are few offered.

How's this one: Major Cleveland H. Bandholtz was once passing through an old office building in Boston, and noticed a partition was being torn out of one of the offices. Some dust-covered boxes had been moved and two old envelopes containing the 10-cent 1847 stamp had fallen on the floor, which envelopes he saw. It suggested a find and he asked permission to go through the boxes. The result of his search yielded almost 600 copies of this 10-cent 1847 alone, not to mention numerous envelopes containing more recent but not more valuable stamps. This 10-cent 1847 stamp sells today for \$35.00, so this find if turned into cash now would have yielded \$21,000.00 approximately.—Linns.

**WOMEN AS STAMP COLLECTORS**

More than a thousand women have registered as being stamp collectors at the stamp exhibitions held in Oakland during the past two years. With such a large number of the gentle sex collecting in the Bay District it seems strange that only four or five belong to any of the stamp clubs in the Bay District. Modern women surely are not afraid of a little tobacco smoke. Can it be that they are too diffident to encroach on what has hitherto been made man's prerogatives? Ladies, you will get more enjoyment out of your hobby if you come in contact with your fellow collectors, either women or men. If you are afraid to be out after dark, why not organize an afternoon stamp club?

**ROMANCE AND POSTAGE STAMPS**

Philately levels all ranks. The American boy who pastes a few foreign stamps in a twenty-five-cent book has entered upon an avocation that has among its devotees kings of industry and commerce in this country and monarchs and potentates of countries of Europe and the Orient. Stamp collecting has become the hobby of youth and age, the obscure, the near-great, and the great. Little Johnny in Somerville has a yearning for rare stamps that is shared by King George in London. The world knows the Prince of Wales as sportsman and woodwill ambassador to peoples in uttermost parts of the empire and the and goodwill ambassador to peoples in the uttermost parts of the empire and the outside world. It further marks him as a good fellow in the estimation of the brotherhood of the philatelists to know that he appreciates rare postage stamps and does his share in collecting them. To enumerate all the royalties who have included the chase of the stamp among their activities would seem like taking whole pages from the Almanach de Gotha.

Not only does philately level all ranks, but it makes the postage stamp the symbol of romance. Stories told of the prices paid for stamps world-famous because of the rarity would appear to belong among specimens of fabulous fiction were it not that they are attested by the records of transactions in which moneys were paid that in many cases were greater than a king's ransom. Such prices suggest that in these days the head that wears a crown may lie uneasy because of thoughts of the stamps the royal revenues cannot buy.

Boston folk had opportunity last August to see for themselves some of the most famous of postage stamps. The show in progress in Horticultural Hall includes specimens worth a million dollars. These bits of paper are guarded with the care that might be expended in protecting a collection of rare gems. No wonder! Many a collection of jewels that has been viewed with interest and admiration by the multitude has been worth no more. With the stamps have come to town a great number of the members of the American Philatelic Society. They are among the Tercentenary visitors deserving of cordial welcome, for they are devoted to that which has brought pleasure to a vast multitude of their fellows the world over, has stimulated the pursuit of useful knowledge, and has done its share in the promotion of international goodwill.—Sent by Allen.

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**WHAT IS MY STAMP WORTH?**

Each issue scores of readers ask what their stamps are worth. It is a pity so much store is set on this word "value."

Collect stamps for the fun of collecting at first, and then later on get the collection valued as a whole. Occasionally a really rare stamp turns up in an unexpected quarter, but much time could be saved and knowledge gained by studying a stamp catalogue. Many dealers are pleased to sell one, only just out of date, quite cheaply.

Other readers have sent Sedang stamps and wondered in what country to place them and what they are worth. Alas! they are not stamps at all, but merely bogus labels, seven different values having been made in 1889. They were made by an officer who claimed that he had been made King of Sedang (which is near Annam). The whole status of the king, kingdom, and stamps rested on a phantom basis, and eventually King David de Maysena evacuated and the Sedang Empire was at an end. There have been other bogus sets of stamps at various times, including Amboy, Brunei (showing ship and star), Fez, Franz Josephland, Spitzbergen, etc., but fortunately no new ones have been issued for many years. Stamp collectors are wiser than they were.—London paper.

**NOTES—By O. T. Hartman**

Rumaging among older stamp papers for literature on fiscal stamps, etc., I came across a file of the "Stempelmarkensammler" pertaining items perhaps of interest at this day worthy to rehash.

Under Emperor Leopold I in 1683 appeared the first documental sheet with impressed tax-value of 3kr, or 15kr, or 60 kr (impressed—therefore not removable except by cutting the stamp out of the sheet). Discontinued in 1695, and again re-established under Karl VI and Maria Theresia and continued with changes to the present time. Even today some of the old cut-outs value as low as 5 cents and up to the scarcer ones from \$7 to \$20. When U-I-1-X-50 is found on these older designs their use proves of Hungarian origin.

In an elaborate description (1910) of Italian municipal stamps, giving interesting information about their use, and the different facilities of securing these revenue stamps are given. Some where easy to secure, used or unused, others under no consideration (until many years later). Many have a straight edge and no other way procurable, and quoted in 1910 from 5 to 20 cents.

If you are artistically inclined and wish a hobby which presents art, history, commerce, design and coloring in a condensed form, then collect exposition stamps (labels) of the world. Hamburg, Germany in 1894 had for its flower show an exposition stamp, which has been quickly adopted for World's fairs down to local affairs. Some of these stamps are works of art, others very inferior. Here are a few to mention; Berlin theater exposition, 1911; Budapest dog exposition; Buenos Aires railway transportation exposition; Japan-British exposition at London, 1911; Oberammergau passion play, 1910; Am. Phi. Soc. convention, 1912; Hamburg exposition of interior decorations. After the exposition stamps can be considered charity stamps; then propaganda (national or political, and commercial labels (reklame) like: Suchard, Liebig, Kaledont, DeJong, etc.—Interesting to mention was the use of the necessary money bills overprinted for an animal show at Soldin, 1924.

In these days of rapid transportation and radio, cable or telegraphic news the faker, who in former days, often succeeded in putting pure, simple fakes on the market went nearly out of business, but can you remember: Abyssinian 1896 fake postage dues; Acre, Brazilian revolutionary stamp; Acapulco-S. Francisco line; Batekeland, Afr.; or Principality of Trinidad, S. A.?

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**NORWAY'S NORTH CAPE ISSUE—By Fred J. Melville**

Norway has just issued a set of three stamps in photogravure, bearing a view of "the huge and haggard shape" of that no longer unknown North Cape. One of the big luxury liners is seen steering round the precipitous headland.

The stamps are not good examples of photogravure, and are of a coarse screen, printed in sheets of fifty on paper watermarked with posthorns. The perforation measures 13½ by 14. The denominations are 15 ore brown, 20 ore rose-pink, and 30 ore ultramarine, but each stamp is sold at a supplement of 25 ore.—London paper.

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**A. HINT—By W. Vallins**

Young collectors will find this hint very valuable in building up their collection. It is: In your duplicate box, keep a small envelope, and in it place all your unwanted stamps (I do not, of course, mean the extremely common issues), and when you have about fifty, send them to any good stamp dealer, who will either buy them or give other stamps in exchange.—Australian Stamp Magazine.

**THE KING'S STAMPS—SPECIMENS IN LONDON EXHIBITION**

Choice specimens from the King's collection were a feature of the private exhibition of early Queensland stamps held by the Royal Philatelic Society, London. The gem of the Royal exhibit was a magnificent mint copy of the 4d. stamp of 1876 with the rare compound perforation 13 by 12. The King also lent a block of four of the plate proof of the 3d. value in blue, an interesting series of lithographic color trials for the 4d., 1875, blocks of 10 of the 2s. 6d. 5s., and 10s., 1881 illustrating the types, and a reconstructed strip of five of the 20s., together with a fine selection of stamps overprinted "Specimen."

The exhibition was confined to collections that had been placed by their owners at the disposal of the committee engaged upon the compilation of a standard history of the postage stamps of Queensland, covering the period of the first volume now in the press. One of the most notable exhibits was that of Mr. J. H. Chapman of Harrogate, which included a fine used strip of six of the 1d. stamp of 1860, a pair of the 2d. and a block of four of the 6d. (Large Star watermark) with clean-cut perforation 14 by 16½, from the top of the sheet. The Rev. James Mursell's display also comprised a number of large blocks and strips, notably a mint block of eight of the 2d., 1862-67 (from the "Mayfair" find), and an attempted reconstruction of the sheet of the lithographic 4d. issue of 1866-67, in which all the known varieties were represented. Historically considered, the selections of New South Wales stamps provisionally used in Queensland pending the first definitive issue, contributed by Messrs. George Ginger and F. J. Robinson, were of the first importance. Other noteworthy exhibits were provided by Messrs. T. W. Hall, Benjamin Goodfellow, P. R. England and Captain C. W. G. Crawford.

Through the sale to a New York philatelist of the newly discovered specimen of the so-called "Inverted Swan" error of the 4d. Western Australia stamp of 1854, America now possesses two out of the 10 known examples of this classic philatelic rarity. That the price realized was somewhat lower than might have been expected may be attributed partly to the financial situation and partly to the fact that another and finer copy has been on the market quite recently. The other American-owned specimen is in the collection of Mr. Arthur Hind, of Utica, N. Y. Under the laws of the United States no living celebrity may be portrayed upon the national stamps, but every bygone President becomes a candidate for philatelic honors. The memory of President William H. Taft is to be honored by placing his likeness upon the four cents denomination of the contemporary postage series in lieu of that of Martha Washington at present appearing. Monday was appointed by the Australian Post Office for the first release of the 1½d. and 3d. stamps commemorating the centenary of the distinguished explorer, Captain Charles Sturt, discoverer of the Murray river.

**HASTINGS, NEBRASKA STAMP CLUB ACTIVE**

Resumption of activities of the stamp club of the Y. M. C. A., got under way with the first meeting of the group being held for the election of officers.

Bert Oberlies was elected president, Gayle Strayer, vice president, and Allen Parker, secretary and treasurer. F. A. Fininger was named as leader.

An initiation fee of 50 cents worth of stamps was agreed upon and fines of five cents worth of stamps for being late and ten cents worth of stamps for missing a meeting was set. Allen Parker was chosen buyer for the club.

The stamps taken in on fines will be given to new members of the club to start a collection.

The club meets each Monday at 7:30 at the "Y" building.

**HELP YOURSELF TO BUSINESS**

Conditions all over the country are beginning to improve. In the stamp world, collectors are getting more active all the time. Business should be good with most of us this winter, but it will be better with those who step out now and meet it coming. Now is the time to stock up, get in new lines and start things humming. One of our British contemporaries has described the situation. The remarks, of course, are directed to the English dealers, but they apply with equal force to this country.

The present condition of world trade is causing the voice of the pessimist to be raised in shrill wailings as to the future of stamp business in this country. Personally I do not think there is any cause for pessimism regarding the hobby or the business future of those who cater for it in this country.

The fact is that stamp collecting has such a varied appeal that it can always get in touch with the spirit of the day, whether the prevailing note be love or money, the desire for novelty, or what not. It does not need a prosperous world to keep it alive, for it can, if need be, be carried on without expenditure.

As to the future of the stamp business, the prosperity of which is after all essential to the growth of the hobby, I base my hopes for this on the fact that, however bad times may be, there is always a proportion of every population which has money to spend, and out of that proportion it should be possible to find sufficient recruits to keep the hobby in a state of healthy progression.

The strongest argument in favor of an outlook of reasoned optimism is the fact that, so far, stamp collecting has gone forward with very little general propaganda to help it on its way. The press has been neglectful, the stamp trade itself has been slow to realize the true power of advertisement, and it is only in the past year or two that the fringe of the subject has been touched. With its inherent attractiveness and with this weapon to be wielded in its defense and in aid of its further advance, stamp collecting will live and progress, and those who cater for the hobby as it is and not as it was, and who give the collector the service he requires and not what they think he ought to require, will also live and progress. Those who refuse to keep in step with the times must inevitably succumb, and the state of world trade will, no doubt, be blamed for it. —Harris.

**POSTER STAMPS**

If all poster stamps were occasionally permitted the facility of postal use, what an influx to our stamp catalogues there would be. It may not be known to the majority of our readers that poster stamps, as such, have their devotees, and many interesting collections of them have been formed, both in this country and abroad. Certain Continental exhibitions have had classes for poster stamps, and some years ago a society of poster stamp collectors was formed under the title of the "Arc en Ciel." The most energetic advocates of their collection were two young Frenchmen, Messieurs Cazin and Rochas. They issued a bulky catalogue of 468 pages in 1914 at 5 francs (then worth \$1.00), but unfortunately it was not illustrated. No doubt future editions would have been, but war intervened. M. Cazin was killed, and no new edition has since been published.—Philatelic Magazine.

As a direct result of a lecture at the Torquay Congress, a Junior Stamp club has been formed. Twenty boys joined at the inaugural meeting held on July 24th at Tor Nook.

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**STAMPS AND THE TRADE DEPRESSION**

It may be pertinent to ask here how far the slump in the business world has affected stamps? Probably all luxuries have been more or less affected. There may be some people who still regard buying stamps as a luxury and the money spent as virtually gone in getting the pleasure of owning and arranging or displaying the stamps; as it does undoubtedly go when expended on many pleasures or luxuries; but I think that today this can only be the view of a very few, because, unlike most luxuries, with rare stamps one can both eat the cake and have it. The value is there and tends to increase rather than disappear. If we regard stamps as a luxury, and financial stringency surrounds us, I should say spend less on other luxuries and more on stamps. In times of trade depression, such as the present one, from which many people believe we are just about to emerge, it is remarkable that stamps are far less depressed in value than most other things, whether luxuries, shares, or raw materials.

In many commodities retail prices have not yet reflected the marked fall both in raw materials and wholesale prices. It is not difficult to think of articles which are about double pre-war price, but of which the raw materials are today practically at pre-war levels. Not so in stamps. If the wholesale market falls, there is so much competition and so little trade organization, that the fall is rapidly reflected in retail quotations. Where stamps have slumps, it is generally because they have suffered from over-speculation. The vast majority, however, keep very firm, and the scarcer obsolete issues are tending to increase all the time. When the new season starts in earnest, many of these will be found to be considerably higher in market value, and not a few of these will be amongst modern British Colonials.—Philatelic Magazine.

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**ZOOLOGY IN POSTAGE STAMPS**

A display of postage stamps bearing pictures of beasts and birds has been arranged in the British Museum, London (Natural History), South Kensington. Fifty-six types of stamps have been chosen for the first frame and since these do not by any means exhaust the number of creatures portrayed by philatelic designers, further series are to be added, if the exhibition appears to attract public interest.

Below each stamp is a label bearing both the popular and the scientific name of the specimen shown, with directions for finding in the general galleries of the museum an example of the animal stuffed and mounted. Many of these are familiar to the juvenile students, whom the stamp exhibition is chiefly intended to attract; the Malay tiger, for instance, and the orang-utan, the dromedary, and the seal. Less familiar zoological names are the bongo (*boocercus eurycerus*) and the kob (*adenota kob*), both depicted on the stamps of Liberia, and the gaur (*bibos Gaurus*), the sambar (*rusa unicolor*), and that curious tusked bird the rhinoceros hornbill (*dichocerus bicornis*), which are all to be found on the stamps of North Borneo. These two countries and Abyssinia are the countries most frequently drawn upon here, though nearly 30 countries in all are represented. On one of the North Borneo stamps is to be seen a picture of the cassowary, a bird which is not in fact found there.

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**PHILATELISTS TO SEE FRENCH COLLECTION**

Lucien Ferrot, philatelist, will give local collectors an opportunity to see his valuable collection of French stamps and tell of his recent trip to Paris, at the regular meeting of the Seattle Philatelic Society at Mannings, 309 Union St. Plans will be completed for the society's annual banquet October 18.

**PROFIT AND PLEASURE**

We shall allow Mr. Bingham, editor of the Duluth Herald, to write this editorial and our comment will be found in the one following. It is with great pleasure that we welcome Mr. Bingham as an associate. He writes:

"I can see that collecting stamps for profit is one thing, and collecting them for the joy of it is another thing entirely, and yet my present viewpoint suggests that for most of us a judicious compound of the two is not unwise nor, I believe, inconsistent with the high ground you take.

"I took up stamps deliberately because I needed a hobby, and I find it just the one I needed. I haven't the slightest intention or the least hope of making money out of it. And yet my conscience would trouble me, I think, if I spent much of my substance getting together a collection which my wife couldn't realize a decent return upon if I stumbled into the creek and didn't get out of it soon enough.

"When I gather in a coveted stamp that fills an aching void in my album, there is joy in that, but the joy isn't spoiled a bit, nor, I believe, commercialized, if I am able to reflect that I got that stamp at a price that would enable me to turn it over at cost or even at a profit any time I desired.

"Those of unlimited means, who can afford to pay any price at all for a stamp that they want badly, do not need to think of such things. But those whose means are not unlimited are, I think, foolish and unjust to themselves and their families if they let their enthusiasm carry them to the extreme of paying twice as much for a stamp as the next generation could hope to sell it for. I see no clash between the collector's pleasure in getting hold of a difficult stamp and his satisfaction in having acquired it at a price which brings the cost of his collection closer to the figure at which it could be readily sold."

—Mekeels.

**COST PRICE—SALE PRICE**

There are two sides to most questions, and there are two in stampcraft—collecting for pleasure or for financial gain. We believe with Mr. Bingham that a real student of philately may have comfort in the accrual value of his possessions from a financial standpoint. Our plea is that profit shall not be enthroned as emperor over Philately's broad domains.

One point in Mr. Bingham's statement will bear examination. Why should our conscience trouble us if unable to "get a decent return" in disposing of a stamp that we have had for a decade? Have we not had the joy of possession and the solace of companionship during all these years? Suppose you pay a dollar for a ball game, what do you get out of it? A chance to see a home run and shout "kill the umpire." Suppose you pay a dollar for a movie and go home—disgusted. Suppose you take your friend out for a golf game and it puts a crimp in a five dollar bill. On the way home: "My score was rotten."

After all folks are queer.—Mekeel's.

**WEST FREE**

Any reader who sends us two subscriptions will receive the West free for one year. Or the publisher will credit anyone with 30c for every subscription sent. Readers are invited to co-operate to help increase the circulation of West Help increase circulation. Get a bigger and more interesting paper.

If you have intelligence, without education or wealth you can make good with the "WEST" in collecting.—Sparks.

**CALIFORNIA BOY WINS STAMP AWARD**

**Son of Harry E. Gray, Secretary Oakland Philatelic Society**

Nine year old Bob Gray of this city has been achieving fame for himself and publicity for Oakland.

Last October Bob entered two frames of stamps at the stamp exhibition held at Hotel Oakland, and won first award for the juvenile exhibit for school children under fourteen. His frames were then taken to Los Angeles, where they were displayed in windows and at schools during the following six weeks. The frames also were displayed for two weeks in the windows of O'Connor, Moffat & Co., of San Francisco and in the public schools of that city.

From April 17 to April 24 the frames were displayed in one of the principal store windows in Vancouver, Canada. From April 24 to 27 they were in British Columbia Philatelic Society's exhibition at Vancouver, winning the blue ribbon for the best educational exhibit by juniors under fourteen.

Returning to Berkeley they were displayed in the lobby of the Fox-Campus Theater for a week. From May 23 to 25 they were on display in the Palace Hotel at the San Francisco Stamp Society's annual exhibition, where they were awarded a first and second ribbon, as the most unique school child's exhibit.

In addition the frames have been shown at a number of schools in Oakland and Berkeley. Pictures of Bob and his celebrated stamp frames have appeared in the New York Midweek Pictorial, Boy's Life and in eighty-five newspapers. Bob is now looking for more worlds to conquer and is contemplating entering his frames in the National Stamp Exhibition, which will be held in Boston in August.—Oakland Outlook.

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**WHY I CHOSE STAMP COLLECTING AS A HOBBY—By W. Vallins, Age 15**

Before I became a stamp collector, I tried many hobbies. Photography was too expensive, and mother remarked about the mess the chemicals made. Model aeroplane making I chucked, because I could never get the darn things to fly. I even went as far as buying a fretwork set, but I soon got tired of pushing the saw through wood which did not seem to want to get cut.

Then I began to collect stamps. Now that I come to consider it, these are the main reasons why I took up stamp collecting, and am still sticking at it. Firstly the initial cost is not great (my first album cost ninepence in a bargain store), secondly you can be always adding to your collection, for even a nimble penny will buy some kind of a stamp. Thirdly you always have the thought at the back of your mind that you are not wasting your money, and that your stamps are always increasing in value. Lastly there is always something to be added to your collection, and you are never done learning about your stamps.—Australian Stamp Monthly.

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**CENSUS STAMPS**

In commemoration of this year's census in Japan, two special postage stamps showing a map of the Japanese Empire have been issued.

Stamp collectors will remember that in 1920 stamps were printed celebrating the thousandth anniversary of the first Japanese census.

Do you know that the first stamp in the world was issued in 1840? And that it is known as the "Penny Black?" The reason for calling it that is well known. Years have altered the word slightly, the original was "Penny Back"—so called because Scotsmen were always taking used stamps to the Post Office and asking for the "penny back."—Stamp Collecting.

**GENERALLY SPEAKING—By "Uncle Frank."**

I think we may safely assume that every stamp lover has at one time or another been a general collector, and very nice too! There are many of us who would give quite a lot to recapture the thrill of discovering that at last our album had a thousand varieties within its covers, a thrill we all remember. No one doubts that general collecting is really great fun, and any philatelist who continues to accumulate anything and everything has pleasure upon pleasure crowding upon him. Neither need general collecting be any more expensive than any other section of the hobby, while I venture to think that it can pay very big dividends in enjoyment and appreciation of stamps.

We all look upon general collecting nowadays as something to be feared, and sometimes even avoided, but in reality it is the door to real philatelic knowledge. The junior with the lowest limit of cash for stampic pursuits can be a general collector and find his time well occupied, and his interest maintained over a very long period. Think for a moment of the really beautiful stamps which can be purchased for a very small outlay, or better still, for the sake of experiment buy a packet consisting of a couple of hundred stamps and examine them as though you had never seen them before. I believe everyone who did this would be rather surprised at the interesting points revealed by these everyday issues, and go back to his or her collection with a fresh zeal.

Yes, there is much to be said for a general collection. Form it how you will; devote it to sections dealing with history, geography, botany, famous men, animals, engineer, sculpture, and so on. Within the realm of stampdon worlds lie hidden, treasures of knowledge teem for the enthusiast to discover; the bulging album displaying the postal tokens of many lands is a valuable possession; associations and memories of famous days are picturised and commemorated. I say to the young general collector, "Keep on keeping on, you are the life of philately!"

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**DUPLICATES**

Accompanying almost any serious collecting activity will be an accumulation of duplicates. Now some collectors look on a second stamp of a kind as something to be avoided at all costs. Consequently they pass up many advantageous opportunities to acquire new varieties because at the same time they must accept a few duplicates.

Many of the duplicates ordinarily obtained are of the cheaper grade of stamps, and this is particularly so during the early years of collecting. Offered for sale individually or as a lot they have but little value. Why not use them as the foundation of a "second" or "third" collection? This is what many collectors are doing. For one thing, you get more action for the same money, and many times a sale of one of these secondary collections can be ultimately arranged with a beginner or less advanced collector. The resulting—often sizable—lump sum can then be used for varieties more expensive than one could ordinarily buy. It isn't necessary or even desirable to use expensive printed albums for such collections. A low-priced blank loose leaf album is best.

We would be glad to hear from any of our friends who have tried this experiment.—Stamps.

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**"STAMP" OUT NERVES!**

A good way to survive the rush and stress of modern life without falling victim every few years to a nervous breakdown, or to some other mental ill, is to collect postage stamps.—Everybody's Weekly.

**OMAHA STAMP SHOW—By Mrs. Evelyn Carter.**

When the Omaha Philatelic Society gave its exhibit in the Omaha Art Institute the collection that struck me as the most interesting was an outline map of the state of Iowa with precancelled stamps of all colors and denominations attached in their proper geographic locations with due respect for the artistic.

I thought that would be a fine idea for any collector to try out with any state for a foundation. Or why would it not work with postmarks instead of stamps?

Another collection was a map of Africa with a stamp from every stamp-issuing country in the continent bounding the map and arrows pointing from each stamp to the country or state represented.

There were many other varieties of collections according to subjects, such as triangles, Geo. Washington, famous men, miniature photo gallery, Greek myths, architecture, notions, fleets (this was called "Sailing the Seven Seas"), famous statuary, etc.

I will describe just one more collection that I thought was out of the ordinary. That was a drawing of a circus grounds with a balloon man standing in front of the tent, but he held stamps instead from all over the world.

Each collection was arranged very artistically on white paper and framed behind glass like any other art picture.

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**LIFE STORY TOLD IN STAMPS—COLUMBUS ISSUE**

So many stamps have been issued in honor of Columbus by countries which he discovered that it is possible to illustrate almost every important event of his life by means of postage stamp designs.

A magnificent new series of Spanish stamps has been issued in memory of Christopher Columbus. The stamps, which are large and beautifully engraved bear portraits of the great explorer and his captains, a view of his flagship and of his fleet, and scenes representing his departure on his first voyage and his first landing on American soil.

Several of the stamps are triangular. In consequence of the adhesion of the Yemen, a district of Arabia adjacent to Aden, to the Postal Union, special stamps have been issued.

The design obeys Moslem rules by avoiding a picture of any living thing, the center being occupied by Arabic inscriptions, with the name of the country and the value, at top and bottom, in English characters.

The stamps have been printed in Germany.

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**ANOTHER ARGUMENT TO CONFFOUND THE UNBELIEVERS**

Arthur Hind's British Guiana has been written and talked about as much as Gainsborough's "Blue Boy," but it remained for the Germans to give us a new slant on this *rara avis* and supply a much-needed substitute for the over-worked royal-hobby stuff.

Emphasizing with black type that the owner—"the Second Ferrari"—paid 150,000 goldmarks for this rarity, they go on to state that this is not alone the highest price ever paid for a stamp, but that it is the most valuable piece of paper in existence, in fact, by comparison, it is the most valuable object known.—Southern Philatelist.

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National and international distinction has been won by the "West" Advertisers thrills in *every* issue.

## ILLUMINATIVE PHILATELY

We hear on all sides paeans on the virtues of stamp collecting. Probably one of the most oft repeated statements is that one which refers to stamp collecting as "Educational." How we love to orate on this theme! And yet, how much truth is there in it? Does a stamp tell where the country is that issued it? Does the microscopic portrait of some unnamed hero add to our fund of information? Does the piturization of a "Filliloo Bird" enlighten us on the habits or habitat of that particular genus? Alas no, knowledge is not gained so cheaply.

But there are virtues nevertheless. He who seeks will find. A postage stamp is often a thrilling place from which to start. It is only a step from it to knowledge. How few take the step, however. In spite of the fact that this slight advance over mere Stamp Collecting adds manyfold to the pleasures and advantages of collecting. Of course, many are not in a position to discover what their stamps are all about. Perhaps they wish there were a means within their reach. Do they? We don't know. We would like to have you tell us.

As an experiment, in this issue of our catalog we are describing two or three of the more interesting issues at somewhat greater length than a stamp catalog usually goes. Are you interested? One question more. Would you like to have these various descriptive paragraphs available, nicely printed on suitable paper and form to go into your album along with the stamps?

If there is sufficient interest in the matter, we will arrange to provide such a service. Let us have your views.—Stamps.

## KANSAS CITY, MO. NEWS

William C Michaels entertained about 25 stamp collecting friends at his home, 645 W 56th St, Kansas City. The guests were seated at card tables and the stamp albums containing Mr Michael's private collection were passed about for inspection. Mr Wilson D Wood participated in the exhibit by permitting several volumes of his United States collection to be shown. There were out-of-town guests from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and Mr. Dan Hamatt, the best known stamp collector in Topeka, Kas., was present. Ice cream and cake were served at the close and a most enjoyable time had by all present.

It is reported that a stamp accumulator in the Kansas wheat belt has sold a full sheet of the perforation 10 variety of the 10c Panama-Pacific issue for \$600. The sale was reported to have been made to a New Jersey stamp dealer.

Mrs. H. W. Warren, 3710 Washington street, had discovered that she is the owner of a very valuable Swedish stamp No. 56D. The stamp in question is cancelled with a black circular design. According to Scotts the same stamp unused catalogs \$1,350. Mrs. Warren believes that the stamp came from the old McKee concern who operated in St. Louis about thirty years ago.—C. S. Davis

## STAMP PLATE BY AIR—RARE "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS

The original plate from which was printed the famous penny and twopenny "Post Office" Mauritius stamps of 1847 went by air from Croydon to Germany. It is to be exhibited at the International Philatelic Exhibition which opens at Berlin tomorrow, and has been insured for \$25,000.

In 1847 a Mauritius watchmaker was given an order to make a plate and print 1,000 twopenny and penny stamps, 500 of each value. He is said to have made a mistake in the plate and used the words "Post Paid" instead of "Post Office." The former issue, the more rare of the two, is now known as the "Post Office" Mauritius.

## PHILIPPINE STAMPS OF THREE GOVERNMENTS

By J. D. Maurl, U.S.C.E

Somewhere between the years of 1899 and 1901 the Americans captured the Philippine Islands from the Spaniards. While the conflict between the two nations was on the Filipinos were secretly forming an independent form of government for then they did not want to recognize either nation. Severe battles had been fought until the natives bowed their heads to the sovereignty of America.

While the Spaniards were passing powers over to the United States the Filipinos in the meantime issued a set of K. K. K. stamps (which might have meant Klu-Klun-Klan) in four different colors and denominations besides a set of stamps for telegraphic uses. These stamps were sold and several thousands went through the mails with special cancellations while the greater part were seized in the plant where they were being printed. As the Americans had control of the Islands at once, the stamps were never recognized by the United States who then issued their 1901-1902 series surcharged "Philippines."

The writer of this article who was stationed in the Philippines for some time obtained a whole sheet of 100 stamps of the "independent" pink 2-cent denomination. These stamps are known to a few advanced collectors but due to a scarcity other collectors have not even seen a picture of them.—Post.

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POSTAGE STAMP HONOUR FOR DUTCHMAN

A man must be very famous for a letter merely addressed "To the illustrious Boerhaave, physician in Europe," to reach its destination—especially two hundred years ago. Yet this is what happened when a Chinese mandarin wanted to get in touch with one of Holland's most famous scholars, Hermann Boerhaave.

The portrait of this great man is the fitting subject of one of four children's charity stamps issued by Holland in 1928.

Leyden was particularly noted for its medical courses, and this well-deserved fame was due greatly to the tireless efforts of Hermann Boerhaave.

Besides being a leading servant of his age, Boerhaave was a most human schoolmaster, and his wise and kindly rectorship of Leyden University was known in the royal households throughout the length and breadth of the Europe of his day. Peter the Great of Russia took especial pains to have lessons from him.

As his own postage-stamp proclaims, Boerhaave lived from 1668 until 1738.

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A BEARDED QUEEN

The Commemorative Stamps issued by Egypt in honor of the International Navigation Congress, which met during December, 1926, bear a reproduction of a great Galley. The sculpture from which this was taken is to be seen in the Temple of Queen Hatasu, at Karnak, and the three stamps form a notable addition to an Egyptian collection. The strange thing about Queen Hatasu is the beard which is given her by those who erected monuments in her honor, thus denoting wisdom.—Stamp Collecting.

It's funny to study catalogues of a few years ago, and note how certain new European issues have gradually and discreetly disappeared. In one European catalogue a certain issue was first described (and priced) as "semi-official," a year or two later "private speculation," then "schwindel-ausgabe" (swindle) and at last disappeared. There are still one or two issues that should disappear from our catalogues.—Stamp Collecting.



# BOILED DOWN

## ORIGINAL OR OTHERWISE

Another stamp season has arrived and if the size of our incoming mail is a sample of what is to come, this is going to be a very busy winter for us.

Now that all of the collectors' clubs have held their conventions the collectors can take a long breath and settle down to the task of increasing the size of their collections.

"Is the 1d lilac likely to rise?" Yes, if you can corner the market, and the same applies to all stamps.

A penny saved is a penny earned, but a penny invested in a British Guiana stamp in 1856 earned \$32,500.00.

What made you start collecting?

Iceland—A limited number of the 5Kr. brown and slate of the 1907-08 series were surcharged 10Kr.

The Continental Dollar, designed by Benjamin Franklin bore the inscription, "Mind your business."

The stamps of the past are the best investment at present as they have a great future before them.

Nicaragua is about to issue new air-mail stamps of 15 and 30 centavos denomination, consequent upon recent reductions in charges for air-borne correspondence.

Stamps have "specks appeal" say the specialist.

Let us have your Ad in next issue.

Rain water is best to use for soaking stamps as it seldom contains any chemicals injurious to stamps.

During the last few months many South American countries have come prominently to the notice of the aero-philatelic world, and the collector has been kept busy keeping up with events.

The first coins issued by the U. S. government were the cents and half-cents coined in 1793.

Renew your subscription NOW.

If you desire to study the paper on which a stamp is printed, it is more easily done if you place a small pocket mirror beneath it in such a manner as to reflect light through its fibre.

Visit your nearest stamp or coin club, they will welcome you and you will gain by meeting some fine fellows.

In answering ads, mention West. It will help you—it will help us—and the advertiser.

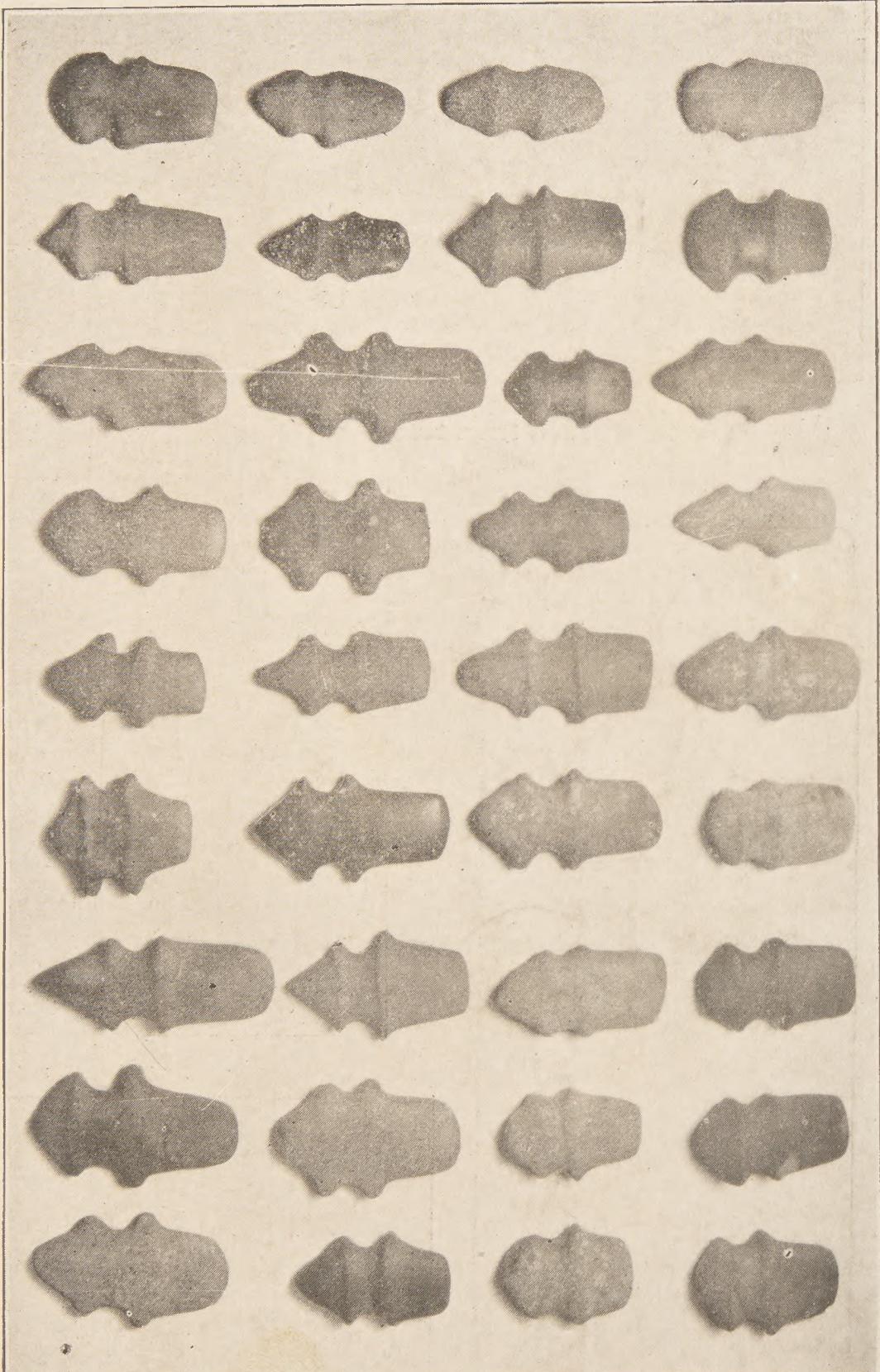
Pass your West to a friend and help us to make another reader.

The Dutch Stamp Dealer's Society has discovered forgeries of the 1929 air mail provisionals of Curacao.

The 1804 dollar is sometimes called the "King of American Rare Coins."

The world's smallest copper coin is the Indian (Travencore) 1-6c.

West carries more X advertising than any other collector's magazine in its class—There must be a reason.

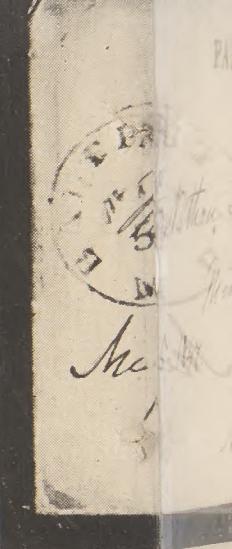


Some of Michigan Barbed Axes of Hathaway Collection. See Ad and Write Up.

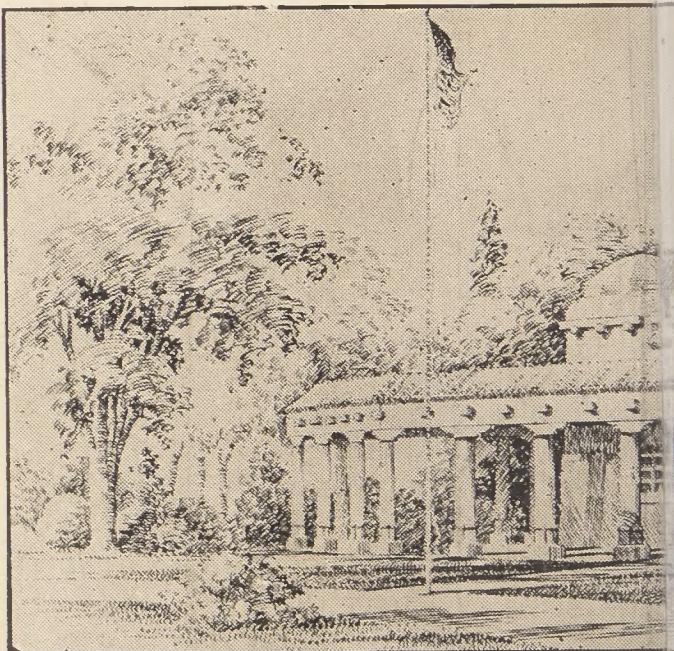


Showing Gun Sale Room Held Some Years Ago.

Ten Thousand



Queen of Stamps. Mrs. C. Hippchen, Chicago, wearing dress of 50,000 stamps. Queen of Postage Stamp Club Exhibition and Festival held in November. Sent by Coin & Stamp Exchange, Omaha.



Centralia, Illinois, Free Museum,



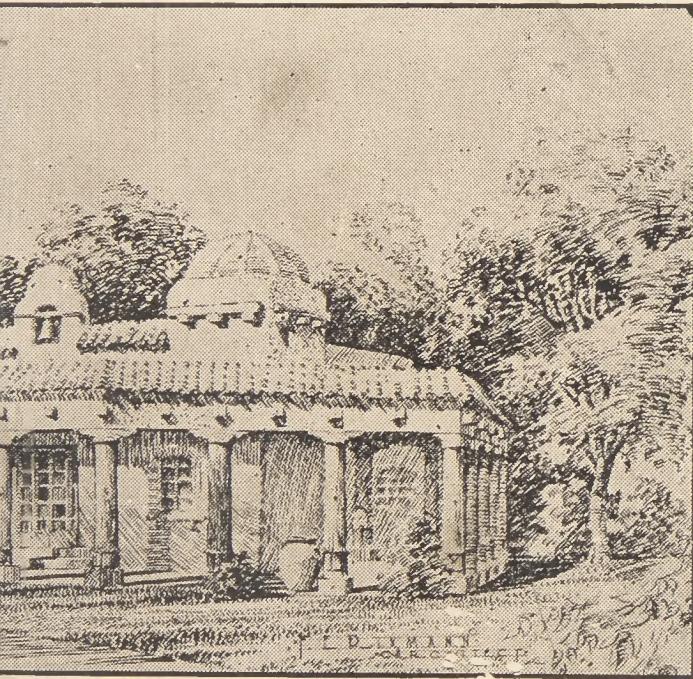
New Spanish Stamp. See write up. Sent by Murchison, Muskogee, Okla.

PAID

James M. Buchanan  
19 Cents.

Nathan Smith Lincoln  
Member of College  
1847. Hanover  
New Hampshire

U.S. Postage Stamp Cover, Courtesy of Nation Business, D. C.



Hubbard Curator. See Ad.



Some Coins of Western States.

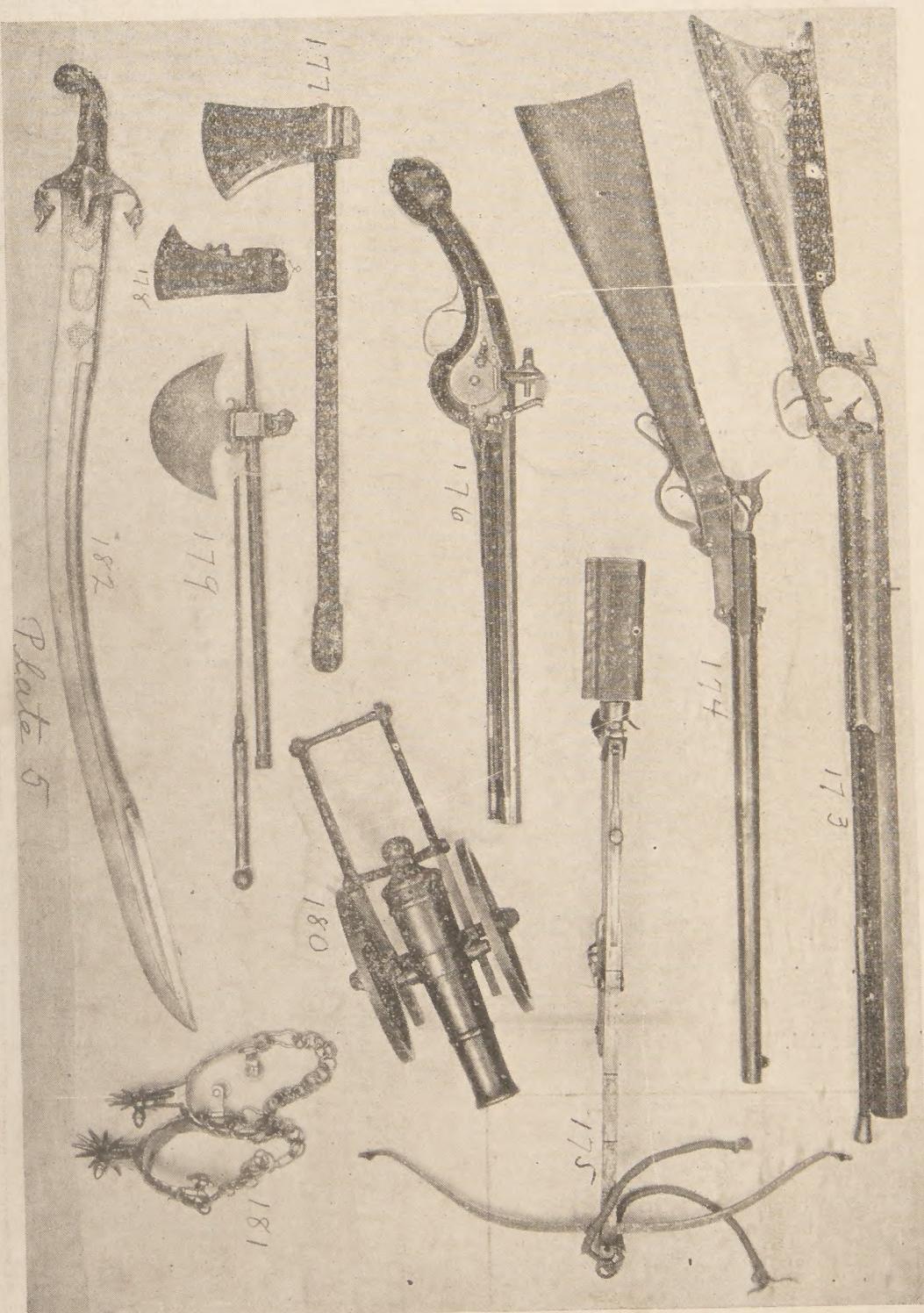


U. S. Gold, \$2 1/2.



David A. Bensman, Two Rivers, Wis.  
See write up of his collection.

Plate 5



Weapons and Guns Sold by Walpole Galleries, New York.

# NUMISMATICS



## WASHINGTON HALF CENT OF 1793—By I X L

The first Senate in 1792 introduced a bill authorizing the making of experimental dies and striking gold and silver coinage in anticipation of the establishment of a mint for the country.

The bill proposed by the Senate specified that one side of the coins have an impression or representation of the head of the President, with an inscription expressing the initial or first letter of his given name and his surname at length, the succession of the presidency numerically and the year of the coinage; the reverse of the gold and silver coins to bear the figure or representation of an eagle with the inscription "United States of America" and the reverse of copper coins to express the denomination.

When the bill was submitted to the House of Representatives, they changed the words referring to the head of the president and declared that one side of each of the coins should have an impression emblematic of "Liberty." Thus amended the bill became a law April 2, 1792, and the wishes of George Washington were complied with, thus prohibiting the likeness of a living president to adorn the coinage of this nation.

The Washington Half Cent of 1793 is illustrated in Plate XI of James Ross Snowden's "Medallic Memorials of Washington," and described as follows: "Obverse, bust of Washington, in uniform facing to the right, with the word 'Liberty' above, and the date 1793 beneath. Reverse, 'Half Cent' inscribed between laurel branches, with the fraction 1/200 beneath, legend, 'United States of America.' On the edge is inscribed two hundred for a dollar."

Apparently some engraver employed in the mint at that time cut the obverse die contrary to presidential and congressional edict and struck it with the current reverse die of the Half Cent of 1793, the first year of the regular coinage. The portrait of the obverse may have been copied from a portrait by Edward Savage, painted in New York in 1790 and transposing it from a three-quarter face into a profile, which accounts for the difference in expression. The head is struck in high relief and altogether unsuited for a coin and was evidently intended to be used as a pattern.

A diligent search by the writer for the past ten years through records, catalogues, etc., revealed that only two were known to have been struck before the die was destroyed. One of the coins reposes in the United States Mint Collection in Washington and the writer has the other, which has passed down to him from the sale of the Charles I. Bushnell Collection, June 20 to 24, 1882, in New York.

In the work of W. S. Baker, "Medallic Portraits of Washington," published in 1885, this coin is described under his number 27, and he states only two specimens are known, the one described in Snowden's work in the mint collection and the Bushnell specimen. If rarity is to be considered, this coin could almost be called unique.

## KANSAS NOTES—By George J. Remsburg.

Lester C. Hoppes, cashier of the State Bank of Corbin, writes very interestingly: "I have a collection of almost one thousand pieces, mostly arrowheads, scrapers, axes, knives and other stone implements, which I have picked up, mostly in Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Have two large mastodon teeth and part of the jaw bone found near this place, and some other fossils. Have an army musket with "Harpers Ferry, 1831," stamped in lock. Have a hammer of an old flint lock and also piece of knife blade and some pieces of copper and other relics picked up on the old French townsite of Fernandeno, which is located on the Arkansas river, some five miles east of Newkirk, Okla; date of habitation about 1600, as nearly as I can determine from what information I am able to gather. I also have a copy of the First Biennial Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture which was published in 1878. This book gives much of the early history of Kansas so far as its settlement by the white man is concerned, and gives the settlements and other data, county by county. I am an enthusiastic hunter and collector of Indian lore especially, and intend to write an article on Indian Villages I Have Visited, some of these days. I believe I have brought in some relics from as many as fifty campgrounds to date and am continually finding other village locations. Mr. Alfred Cadwalader of this place is a collector also and has a fine collection. Also Miss E. Bertha Dennett, of this place, has a very fine collection of minerals, fossils and Indian relics; also some very fine Indian pottery. The largest and most extensive collection of Indian relics that I know of in Kansas belongs to Mr. B. F. McDaniel, of Dexter, who is a very energetic collector. There are several collectors in and around Dexter."

Dr. R. S. Dinsmore, formerly of Troy, Kas., but now of Walla Walla, Wash, writes: "I visited 'Ye Olde Curiosity Shoppe' at Seattle on both of my last trips, but Mr. Standly happened to be out each time, and I hoped you could have been with me as he certainly has a wonderful collection of relics, among which are some fine specimens of totem poles, basketry, Indian canoes, fishing tackle, face masks (many of them almost as heavy as one man can carry) and many other objects of interest, that I hope to examine more carefully at some future visit. Southern Alaska contains thousands of these totem poles, many of them being from 50 to more than 100 feet in height, five to eight feet at base, wonderfully carved and painted, with colors of all shades, and reputed to have been standing at their original sites for one to three centuries past, with their original daubs of paint. Some of these totems are guarded and are supposed to contain mummies of former chiefs, which may be true, but I know that the wood-peckers, yellow hammers and owls make their homes in many of these old 'Memories of the past.' It was not uncommon to see one or more of these huge totem poles standing like lone sentinels on the highest peak of a mountain, far removed from any sign of village, or habitation, present or past, and the marvel to me is how they managed to convey these enormous burdens to such unusual height, and place them, a difficult feat even with modern appliances. I did not intend to branch off on this totem pole angle, but it has a strange fascination, and I would like to know more of them."

Capt. Stanley Beatty of the Kansas City, Kas., police department, is a book collector. The Kansas City Kansan recently printed the following concerning him: "Stanley Beatty, night police captain, has collected a number of interesting presents and souvenirs during his years as an officer, but among the most valued is a complete autographed set of the works of Ernest Franklin

Bishop, San Francisco's author-detective. Among the books are "The Gangster," "The City of Silent Men," "Crooked Streets," and "The Bindle-Maker," some of which have been filmed. One of the books, "The Timberwolf of the Yukon," which was written first for the movies and then put in book form, was given to Beatty with a note of appreciation. On the fly-leaf is this inscription: "To 'Stan' Beatty, the best pal any man ever had, and who is more a brother than any man I have ever known. His friendship is one of the finest things of my life and I trust I shall always hold it and that Fate will be kind enough to permit us to meet often as the years roll by. Here's to you, Stan, a he-man among men, a fearless officer of the law, a friend, a pal, a brother, from one who is for you, first, last and always." The friendship between Beatty and Bishop was started when Beatty was in California on a police case."

The Leavenworth Times says: "Emblems of the calling of men are rapidly disappearing, or have already disappeared. We never see in front of a drug store any more a huge mortar with a pestle sticking out of it; the wooden Indian has slipped away to the forest from in front of the cigar store; the big wooden boot no longer swings over the shoe shop; entertainment for man and beast is no longer advertised by big swinging signs upon which are painted foaming glasses of beer, nor often do we see a big wooden horse in front of a harness shop nowadays. In fact nearly all the harness shops have disappeared. And now the fear is expressed that the barber pole will have to go. It should not. The pole dates back to the time when the barber was also a surgeon to the extent that he bled his patients on their request, (nowadays what bleeding he does is involuntary so far as the victim is concerned). In ancient times the barber and the surgeon were required to maintain poles in front of their places of business. The surgeon no longer does so and the barber often reduces his to a mere excuse for a pole set in a grame and kept whirling around by clock-works within. For old sake's sake the barber pole should be retained. Maybe an addition to it in the shape of a woman's wig with a permanent wave may be desirable in this age of bobbed hair, but let us have the stick candy pole."

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#### A MAN OF HOBBIES.

Charles Gates Dawes is a surprising man. This financier, who composes music on the side and has been among other things a brigadier general, a vice president of the United States and an ambassador to the court of St. James's, now turns out to be an archaeologist as well. At the moment he is traveling about Spain, inspecting prehistoric caves and visiting museums.

The caves which Ambassador Dawes has been examining are famous for the drawings to be found on their walls. There is no doubt of their antiquity, because the animals so skillfully portrayed are known to have belonged to a definite geological period, which can be readily dated. These caves contain some of the earliest records of primitive life that we possess. Ambassador Dawes has brought vividly before the American mind the singular richness of Spanish archaeology, which should be of especial interest to Americans because of the historic intimacy of the two countries.—*Kansas City (Mo.) Star.*

Prof. H. H. Nininger to Denver, former head of the biology department of McPherson college, who has gained international fame as a collector of meteorites, and who resigned his position at the local college last spring so that he could devote his entire time to research work in connection with his favorite hobby, is leaving this week for Denver, where he has accepted a position as curator of meteorites at the Colorado Museum of Natural History.

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**NEWS NOTES FROM HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE OF INTEREST  
TO COLLECTORS—By W. Straley, Independence, Mo.**

The past summer Dr. Schranel of Prague University uncovered relics of the first German colonization near Celakovice near Prague. Among the most interesting finds was the skeleton of a horse and rider—ancient armor and other objects were found also.

Commander Gatti of the Italian scientific expedition to Northern Rhodesia reports "the extraordinary discovery of the site of an ancient iron foundry, buried at a depth of six feet in an enormous cavern, in strata of the Palaeolithic age, which has hitherto been regarded as the earlier Stone age. Here, many thousands of years ago, some race superior in intellect to its fellows smelted iron by very primitive methods.

An English paper reports the finding of "a magnificent specimen of late Celtic art in the shape of a bronze gilt bowl, nearly a foot in diameter, and adorned with silver escutcheons worked in enamel in the finest Celtic fashion." This 1,300-year-old relic was unearthed by excavators belonging to the Hampshire Field Club, working on a hill known as Oliver's Battery, southwest of Winchester. The bowl is in perfect condition. \* \* \* It is the first to be found with five perfect escutcheons, the first with escutcheons of silver and the first with enameling in other color than red. It was found about eighteen inches below the present level of the ground on the chest of the skeleton of a young man of about twenty-five years of age about five feet, nine inches in height. Two weapons, the iron head of a small javelin and a hunting sword, still in the remains of a wooden scabbard, were found with the skeleton. \* \* \* Experts have placed the burial somewhere between 550 and 630 A. D., when the Saxons were conquering and settling in southern England."

There was found recently on a pioneer ranch near Cheralis, Wash., a civil war musket, firmly locked in the crotch of an oak tree, which had grown around the firearm, which had reposed there these many years.

A recent English paper contained this item: "The things that Americans take home with them make curious reading sometimes. An American woman who was over here recently went around cottage gardens all over England collecting old English herbs—rosemary, basil, tansy, lavender, fennel and the like—all for her garden in California, where, it appears you can't get such herbs."

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**CALIFORNIA NOTES—By George J. Remsburg.**

Bert Barton of Orosi has quite a collection of curios and relics including a walking cane that was whittled out by John Sontag, noted California bandit of the early days, when sitting around a camp fire while planning raids.

The skeletons of four Indians were uncovered by workmen on the municipal farm at Visalia a while back and were turned over to local antiquarians.

F. F. Latta, local antiquarian and historian of Tulare, has a Washington hand press, said to be the second oldest newspaper press in California. The press, which was brought around the Horn in 1849, is older by a thousand numbers than a similar press in the Sutter Fort Museum at Sacramento. During the gold rush days, the old Mariposa Gazette was printed on this press. Later it was moved to Snelling where seditious confederate newspapers and propaganda were printed. Federal soldiers attempted to destroy the press and it was broken in several places. It has been mended by long rods and clamps.

Mrs. Mary Wilson, a full blooded Yosemite Indian and native Californian, 78 years of age, was found dead in bed at Madera. She was a princess and

## THE PHILATELIC WEST

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leader among the mountain Indians. Bob Osborne, known as "Indian Bob," aged 85, chief and one of the few surviving members of the Kaweah tribe, died in Eshom Valley east of Visalia. He was also a native Californian.

Near San Luis Obispo a steam shovel operating on the Carmel-San Simeon highway unearthed evidence between Villa and Alder Creeks that many, many years ago an Indian village by the sea was obliterated by a landslide. The shovel brought to light skeletons, tomahawk heads, pieces of buckskin thongs, a stone mortar, arrow heads, pestles and other relics of the pre-metal age. The fact that the skeletons were found in prone position was believed to offer proof that the village was buried by a landslide for it was the Indian custom to bury the dead in a squatting posture, with knees drawn up under the chin. H. L. Leventon, who had charge of the work, sent the material to the ethnology department of the University of California.

Refuse piles made by Costanoan Indians 1,000 years or more ago indicate to University of California experts that this Bay District Indian resided here the year around. Some 6,700 specimens of bird bones were discovered in 400 shell mounds concentrated at abandoned Shell Mound Park when the latter was leveled for a factory site. Among them were bones of the cormorant, ducks and geese. Ducks and geese, according to Hilgard Howard, graduate in vertebrate zoology, were present only during the winter and the cormorant only in the summer. Hence, because of the presence of both in the refuse mounds left by the Indians, the latter must have been here in all seasons.

The skeleton remains of what was supposedly an Indian almost seven feet tall was unearthed by Pharos Le Bard on the LeBard ranch, seven miles east of Fillmore. Excavation was being carried on in the side of the hill not far from the house, when the bones were discovered. Unearthing these, it was found that they were those of a man who had died or been buried in that spot, approximately 100 years ago, a man perhaps 60 or 70 years of age. One, at least, of about every representative bone in a human body was collected by the excavators, including part of the skull, the lower jaw bone containing teeth, backbone joints, ribs, hipbones and lower leg, finger or toe and arm. Buried in a soil conducive to its preservation but not to its petrification, rather than the usual turning to dust, the skeleton, which is in a badly broken-up condition, is of good solidity, but of a porous nature. Dr. W. R. Manning of Fillmore, when shown the jawbone and teeth, stated that they indicated an old man, due to the fact that they are worn off to such a great extent, some of them having very little of the enamel left. The bones were found at a depth of four or five feet.

Miss Nell Lounsberry of Newport Beach has been spending the past summer on a motor collecting trip through California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, during which she made many interesting discoveries. Miss Lounsberry is an indefatigable and enterprising collector and a splendid writer and we may expect to see some interesting reports from her.

In Porterville the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Daley at 218 B street is a veritable museum. They have a most interesting collection of relics and curios on exhibit there.

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More and more do collectors pay attention to the condition and color of old furniture; that which has been "done up" and deprived of the bloom of age has lost much of its attractiveness to the connoisseur of discrimination.

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An Isabella quarter and a Columbus quarter are the same coin.

**INDIAN DOPE; ANCIENT AND OTHERWISE—By W. Straley.**

Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, a Spanish explorer, visited what is now Kansas in 1542. He was in search of gold. He didn't find it. He found the Indian and buffalo. Also Quivira.—Kansas City (Mo.) Star, March 25, 1890.

Last spring, Dr. E. H. Sellards, geologist of the University of Texas, reported the finding of a stone shaped like a human head. The specimen is splendidly carved, "showing the teeth, ears, eyes and flattened chin." This ancient carving was found beneath sixteen feet of undisturbed Texas gravel and weighs between seventy-five and 100 pounds.

Plans are on foot to establish a library of Indian literature at the Oklahoma A. and M. college, by the Tapela Indian society. The club, which is composed of college students of Indian blood, contemplate obtaining books pertaining to Indian life, traditions, history and accomplishments and placing same in the library.

According to press reports, Prof. Carl O. Sauer, geography department of the University of California, recently thirty new Pueblo sites in southeastern Arizona.

Dr. A. W. Bowers of Beloit college, Wisconsin, who is in charge of the Mandan expedition for the Logan Museum, on return from the field in South Dakota, reports many valuable finds. The expedition was financed by Mr. Frank G. Logan of Chicago. The first mound explored was near Pierre, in which were found skeletal remains, pottery and stone artifacts. The pottery was neither Sioux, nor Mandan, nor Arikaree, but made by more primitive than either. The arrowheads and scrapers in the mounds were made entirely of brown and black flints, a material which made only one per cent of the implements found in the Mandan villages.

An associated Press reports the discovery of the long lost grave of Rev. Simon Hobbs and his wife, missionaries to the Chawtaw Indians in early territorial days, by Miss Muriel Wright. Rev. Hobbs and wife came to that section in 1853 and established a mission in the Winding Stair mountains. The location of their final resting place had been lost sight of for more than fifty years.

The past summer, Mr. E. C. Matthews, who resides near Sikeston, Mo., employed Mr. Kinzir Kennet Baker to explore an old Indian mound on his place. Careful work exposed skeletal remains and numerous reliques. The skeletons were long of leg, many of them indicating that in life the Indians were seven or more feet in height.

Dr. Herbert Spencer Dickey has returned from the jungles of the Orinoco river, South America, where he had been exploring for Museum of the American Indian, Hege Foundation. He reports finding the Quaharibas, a yellow-skinned tribe, who reported that the white Indians were to be found farther west. He plans to return later and seek them.

Some years ago, near Council Grove, Kas., Boy Scouts unearthed a skeleton on the farm now worked by Mr. Frank Hauke, republican candidate for governor, and a monument was erected to the "Unknown Indian." Vice President Curtis, on his recent visit there, placed a wreath on the grave of this unnamed Kaw chief.

John Dougherty, western pioneer, was conspicuously identified with Indian affairs and with the history of the Platte purchase. He was born in Kentucky, April 12, 1791, and when 18 accompanied Lewis and Clark on their second expedition from St. Louis. He proved, despite his youth, to be one of the most

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daring of the band and was familiar with the Indian customs and languages. He served as Indian agent for a long period and was stationed at Fort Leavenworth, and at Council Bluffs. Later he was stationed at St. Louis. While there he was in the fur business with Chouteau. He spoke several Indian dialects fluently and was called "Controller of Fire Water" by some and "Iron Legs" by the Sioux tribes, because of his great endurance. He was valuable to the national government and the state because of his ability to converse with the different tribes, and his cleverness in dealing with them.—Kansas City (Mo.) Journal-Post.

It's a long span between the travois and the airplane—nevertheless the press reports recently announced that Chief Cloud, Indian aviator, was dangerously injured in a glider wreck near Wichita, Kas.

Che-Qua-Kif-Ka-Tuppi (Shooting Star), an aged medicine man of the Menominee Indians, passed away near Shawano, Wis., April 10.

During the past ten years the Smithsonian Institute has done considerable exploring among the mounds and Indian ruins of western Florida. A report made by the Associated Press says that numerous skulls and other relics were secured. We look forward to a complete report by the Institution.

A log from a cabin in which the famous Osage treaty was signed in 1870 has been presented the local D. A. R. chapter by L. A. Rundell, a farmer east of Independence, Kas., on whose farm the treaty was signed. The log will be placed in a case together with other valuable historical relics owned by the chapter.—Kansas City (Mo.) Star.

Chief Chauncey Kills-in-the-Bush Yellowrobe, who conducted the tribal ceremonies at the adoption of President Coolidge into the Sioux tribe, is dead at the age of 63 years.

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### COSTLY ANTIQUE COLLECTION CROWDS LA GRANGE MAN OUT OF HIS HOME.

LaGrange, O.—One of the most interesting and valuable collections of antiques and curiosities in this section is owned by a LaGrange blacksmith. With the income derived from the manufacture of cock spurs for sale in Cuba, the Philippines and South American countries, where cock fighting is a national sport, Wade Johnson started his collection twenty years ago.

Today he is being literally crowded out of his modest home here by the countless articles he has gathered from every corner of the earth. Barely enough room remains in the house for living purposes and antiques overflow on to the porch and into the front and back yards. In addition Johnson has an adjoining house of fifteen rooms and three large barns filled with articles of his collection.

Ancient clocks and curious bits of art owned by him are also to be found in the corner store, the town hall and in the homes of friends. Johnson values his collection at more than \$250,000. One piece, a huge hand-carved ebony chair, which it is asserted was part of the furnishings of a Hindu temple in India 300 years before Christ, has brought offers of \$25,000, according to the owner.

Clocks are a special hobby with Johnson and he has more than 200 of them, representing every age and country. The collection also contains costly dishes, coins of the era before Christ, historic canes and snuff boxes, an ox cart, ancient documents signed by early presidents.—Sent by L. H. Hufont.

**COIN COLLECTING—By Sherman J. Corbett, Member A. N. A.**

The origin of coin collecting is undecided. No one seems to know who first started to acquire a collection of coins, but safe to say we do know that there are few individuals who do not during childhood and through the years that follow, collect, and add to their collection at every opportunity.

No matter what the collection may be composed of, whether it is small or large, cheap or costly, it's all in the game, and one enjoys it as much as another.

Collectors travel miles at the smallest clue to find that which they hope to add to their accumulation. This follows through the years, and many have passed to the other world in want, rather than depart with some rare article from the last of his collection.

Perhaps this every growing phenomena could be explained to a certain extent by one of our foremost psychologists, who in his latest book describes our innate instincts. One of the foremost of these dominant urges is that of collecting and hoarding. He explains further that this innate characteristic of all humans begins after birth, or at a short period later, and follows us to our end.

When we look back at our childhood days this sounds reasonable, for where is the one, who at childhood doesn't have a collection of cherished articles. These are often hidden in a trusty pocket where the contents are viewed only by their owner or divulged only to one's closest pals.

I can remember now when a youngster, I acquired in return for a few hours' work a few worn and corroded coins, and a burning glass, which I didn't know at the time was used for magnifying the coins. Many are my friends who were mystified by this collection and the ability I had to start a fire, and make print "grow" as we termed it.

These articles which constituted my first collection were secreted inside my clothes lest my teacher should see fit to appropriate and add them to her collection which was kept to be given back at the end of the school term.

This collection which would have made any boy's heart pump with excitement, grew from day to day until at the end of the term it took considerable time and effort on the part of our teacher to sort and replace them into the eager and grasping hands of the owners.

Starting as I did with these few cherished coins, many are those who have continued throughout their life, enjoying this ever pleasing and worth while hobby.

To the uninitiated, coins are merely curiosities, and like a rare painting or work of art in an art gallery they are passed by by some while those who have learned to appreciate linger and return at every opportunity to view with ever increasing interest what to them is a branch of the antique art in its most perfect development.

No other object of art contains within so small a space such a wide interesting field, and history as a collection of coins.

From the prehistoric to the present age we have the story of civilization from its lowest levels through the strife in which tribes and empires rose and fell as the cycles changed to the present period. Countries, cities, both ancient and medieval, people and tribes long vanished, are again lived and visualized in the minds and thoughts of the collector.

A great many kings, queens, and nobles, to say nothing of the countries, wars, arts, and religions would remain unknown to multitudes were it not for some coin crude or elaborate and minted by these people of the past and handed down to the present generation.

This brings back to the numismatist a vivid realization of what took place or occurred at this particular period, together with the date of occurrence.

History shows that from the beginning of time man began to exchange, barter and trade for the commodities of life. Early records tend to show that the earliest unit of value was based on the ox. At this time metals particularly gold and silver were being used, and were made into many forms, such as bars, spikes, bracelets, and armour which according to their weight represented a certain number of oxen, or cows in trade or exchange.

At a later date in England slaves were valued at four times that of an ox. In fact the word *fee* comes from the Anglo Saxon *feah*, "cattle." It is therefore very apparent that there was an important connection between the ox, and the value of money at this particular period.

Probably some of the earliest coins were those fashioned of electrum, which was a mixture of gold and silver. These were shaped into bean-shaped objects which were of so primitive a nature that the coins have a lumpish appearance. These at a later date were stamped with a symbol which was crude and indistinct. These were quickly adopted by the different trading countries and it remained for the Greeks a few years later to bring this new art of coining into all its glory. These coins were inscribed with the initials, names of rulers, and occasionally those of the die maker showing that it was a worth while art and dignified occupation.

These inscriptions eventually became more complex, and at a later date bore the images of animals, rulers, tyrants, etc. Thus dates were recorded indirectly by these inscriptions, and initials which mark different eras in history, and by which the coin dates are recorded. The Greeks later recorded dates by the use of symbols or abbreviations.

These early coins found their way to all parts of the then known world, and were often used as models by the makers of coins in other countries.

These early Greek coins, of which there were over one thousand varieties issued by independent cities, had taken on different characteristics both as to the composition and shape, and were fine examples of art and workmanship.

The Greek coins were eventually superseded by those of the Roman conquerors who never allowed coinage of money by a subject state. While their coins were inferior to those of the Greeks the change of design, and the depicting of this period gave them a great importance, and a special interest all of their own.

The first Roman money came about 330 B. C., and were of cast bronze and silver. Many arguments have caused concerning the origin of the images used on the coins of these early periods. Some say they were symbols of religion, badges of cities, others that they represent various units which were in vogue at this particular period. They may also be private marks as some of the earliest coins were of private origin and were used independent of the state. These of course came before the portraits of rulers which came later.

The Roman period gradually gave way to the Teutonic, or Goths. This marks the ending of the barbaric, and the beginning of the medieval.

The most powerful of the Teutons were the Franks, and under whose rule coins were minted in many different places. This money was minted under the direct control of the sovereign or overlord to whom all right to mint coins belonged, and who at times granted privileges to private individuals who minted coins bearing his likeness.

Minting was accomplished at this time by placing the shaped metal on a block over which was placed a die. The die was then struck with a heavy

hammer making an impression after which the rough edges were trimmed with shears.

The manner of making effigies, and individuality at this time were many and varied, and continued until the seventeenth century when they began to lose this individuality and take on a more mechanical aspect.

In 1631 the invention of milling the edges of the coins to prevent clipping was introduced.

Perhaps at this time it would be wise to turn to the coins of our own country, where in the years 1616-1624 the English settlers in the Sommers Islands coined the first known token or hog money. These pieces which are exceedingly rare consisted of copper shillings, sixpences, threepences, and two-pences, having on one side a three masted ship, and on the other side a hog in memory of the abundance of hogs that were found on this island at their first landing.

In 1793 George the III struck for the Bermudas a Regal Coinage which consisted of his bust, name and a three masted ship with Bermuda.

The first on the continent was about 1652 and was of silver in character, consisting of shillings, sixpences and threepences. This was not sanctioned, however, by the parent government.

In the years that followed many coins were struck by the individual states. About 1787 congress decided on a coinage using the silver dollar as its unit. The first coin of the United States of America was the Fugio cent 1787. The regular mint was established in the year 1792, a few dimes being issued towards the close of this year. The regular coinage began in 1793.

1793 marked the beginning of many different coins in our country. This coinage consisted of dollars, half dollars, quarters, dimes, half dimes, cents and half cents.

Any one of these early series or those that came at a later date, when collected make an extensive study, and in most cases provides the collector with a wide variety of dates, die marks, etc., which take years to find and collect. These obstacles are some of the stimuli that make coin collecting a hobby, and lends thrills to the collector.

#### THE BARBED STONE AXES OF MICHIGAN

The so called "Michigan Barbed Axe" seems to be drawing the attention of a large number of archaeologists all over the country. They were freely discussed after the reading of a paper by Mr. M. E. Hathaway, St. Johns, Mich., at the joint meeting of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, The Wisconsin Archaeological Society and the Midwest Museum Conference held at Madison, Wis., April 11 and 12, 1930. Later an extensive paper was written about them by Mr. Charles E. Brown of the State Historical Museum, Madison, Wis. This paper was read at the Wisconsin Archaeological meeting held at Milwaukee, Wis., in April of this year and is published in full in the April number of their magazine.

These axes differ from any other type ever found inasmuch as the groove is missing and in its place there are two projections on each side, invariably they are flat and in most cases have a peaked top. There is no authentic record of one of these axes ever having been found outside the state of Michigan and very few outside of an area covered by the Grand river and Saginaw valleys. The center of this ancient cult seemed to have been in Clinton county Michigan. Elsewhere in this issue we are pleased to display a photograph of some of these axes.

# BIBLIOGRAPHY



Under this heading we will answer all inquiries pertaining to books. Questions and answers of interest to subscribers will be published here each issue. Parties having interesting notes kindly send to the above.

Here you may range the world with the magic of a Book; plunge into scenes of remote ages and countries, and cheat expectation and solitude of their weary moments.

## RARE BOOK NOTES—By F. Christopher, 269 S. 8th St., Newark, N. J.

The acme in printing was reached in 1894 when William Morris, England's master printer produced the peerless book known as the "Kelmscott Chaucer" at Hammersmith, Eng. The printing was limited to 438 copies, 13 of which were printed on vellum. The work was entirely subscribed for in advance, and at a premium. The vellum copies have twice sold for the stupendous sum of \$20,000 at auction. The price paid upon publication for a copy on vellum was \$830. Nine of the thirteen vellum copies rest in public institutions. During the seven years, 1891-98, that the Kelmscott Press functioned under the direction of Morris fifty-three limited editions of books were produced, the subscription price of which, exclusive of the vellum "Chaucer" noted above, was about \$750. A few years ago \$4,000 was asked for the same set. Other English private press books that are eagerly sought and for which large premiums are paid, are the famous Ashendene and Doves Press imprints.

It is not generally known that the Bible was not printed in English in America until after the Declaration of Independence. The reason is obvious when it is pointed out that all English Bibles were printed under Royal license in England. There was no objection to the printing of the Bible in a foreign tongue in the colonies as it did not conflict with the rights of the licensee in the mother country. The first Bible printed in America was John Eliot's translation of the Bible in the Indian tongue. The Mohegan dialect was used as it was common to the Indians of New England. The New Testament was printed and issued at Cambridge, Mass., in the year 1661. The Old Testament was then translated and printed together with the New at the same place in 1663. This great man laborously worked out an alphabet for a language that had never before been printed. The legend runs that he used the same quill pen for both translations. The first Bible printed in a European tongue was printed in the German language at Germantown, Penn., by Christopher Sauer, in 1743. The German settlers of Pennsylvania possessed but few copies of the Scriptures due to the extremely high cost of imported copies. Sauer though in modest circumstances resolved to turn printer to supply the German immigrants with Bibles at a price that even the poorer classes of his countrymen could afford. He prevailed upon some zealous friends in Germany to aid with contributions and was given an entire font of type by a wealthy Frankfort type founder. An edition of 1,200 copies was issued in August, 1743. Sauer fixed the price at eighteen shillings. To those who were very poor he sold copies cheaper and in many cases gave copies away. The third edition printed in 1776, still in

sheets unbound, fell in the hands of the desperate soldiery who were hard pressed for supplies and were used in making cartridges. In the year 1782 Robert Aitken, a Philadelphia printer, by permission of the Continental Congress printed the Bible in English, copied from the authorized version. These three Bibles are highly prized by collectors of Americana.

The autograph material of American authors most highly prized is that of Edgar Allan Poe. His genius was spectacularly brilliant and the glamour that surrounded his short life has ever intrigued collectors of American literary property. Poe letters and manuscripts are extremely scarce. The long lives and myriad activities of Longfellow, Bryant, Whittier, Holmes and others of the New England group have brought down to the present innumerable letters, stanzas of favorite poems and other material from this group. It is estimated that Longfellow transcribed the stanza "Lives of great men all remind us," from the "Psalm of Life," hundreds of times for autograph collectors. Of the New England group Henry David Thoreau and Nathaniel Hawthorne letters are the rarest.

The recent granting of the post of poet laureate of Great Britain to John Masefield has revived the discussion as to who has been the outstanding American poet since the passing of the great New England group of the Victorian era. If current prices that collectors are willing to pay for the first editions of their favorites can be used as a criterion the selection seems to rest in one of the following names. Their most sought for titles are included. Emily Dickinson, "Poems," Boston, 1890. Edgar A. Robinson, "The Torrent," 1896; "Children of the Night," 1898; "Captain Craig," 1902. Edgar Lee Masters, "Spoon River Anthology," 1915. Edna St. Vincent Millay, "Renascence," 1917.

#### SKELETON OF INDIAN SLAIN IN BATTLE RESTS IN S. D. U. MUSEUM.

Vermillion, S. D.—The skeleton of a male Arikara Indian who was probably killed in a battle with the Sioux, and who early in life had both legs broken, is now in a glass case in the University of South Dakota museum.

The Indian was about 35 years old, according to Mr. Over, curator of the museum, and his bones show that while still young his right femur and left tibia and fibula had been broken.

The skeleton was found at Elk Creek site about 30 inches below the surface in an old Indian burying ground. There are three steel arrow points in the skeleton, which indicates that he was in battle with the Sioux. One arrow point is in the head, one in the left humerus, and a point of one in one of the vertebrae. Iron rings, ornaments for the wrist, were found buried with the Indian.

From the same site another skeleton was taken. This Indian was killed by a bullet wound, and the flattened bullet may still be seen in the museum. The bullet shattered the Indian's right femur. Two elk teeth, many porcelain beads, a bear claw, three flints for a flint lock gun, and an old copper button were found in the grave with this skeleton, and these also are in the university museum.

While digging his potatoes on the plat south of the old Dawson elevator last fall, Joe Kremlacek of Brainard, Neb., found a bronze medal or watch charm bearing the date 1834. The piece is a little smaller than a silver dollar and bears this inscription: "The Sovereign Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, 1834." Although 96 years old and having probably been buried for years, the piece is in perfect condition.

## WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR "WEST" by David A. Bensman, Two Rivers, Wis.

Rulers of foreign countries, statesmen, opera stars, famous actors, world renowned doctors, leading radio announcers and orchestra leaders, prize fighters—all these and many other walks of life are represented in the autographed photograph collection of David A. Bensman.

His photos number more than 200 and the list is continually being increased. David simply writes to prominent people all over the world, asking for a signed picture, and seldom is he refused, unless it is the rule of the person not to send out their likenesses as is the case of Henry Ford, Andrew Mellon and John D. Rockefeller and others.

One of the rarest pictures in his collection is that of Florence Nightingale, founder—of military—hospital service. Bensman came by it through a trade with another collector who had found it in an old attic and seemingly failed to appreciate its value.

Nicholas Longworth, speaker of the house, declined to send his picture but David won by making him "come through." He pasted a newspaper print of the speaker on cardboard and sent it to Mr. Longworth with the request that it be signed. Then there came in the mail a real photograph signed "To David A. Bensman, with best wishes." From distant Czechoslovakia was received a fine picture of its president, Thomas Masayrk. It was excellently wrapped to stand the long journey; and Carlos Salorzano, at one time president of Nicaragua adds his to the collection.

Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York wrote that he was pleased to send his autographed photo because he, too, is a collector. Stanley Baldwin, when prime minister of England, in 1928, sent his picture signed. Baron Dunsany of Dunsany Castle in England sends his autographed snapshot explaining his delay in replying. John Phillip Sousa, world's famous march king, pauses in his musical career to draw a few lines of his famous march, "Stars and Stripes Forever." Albert Payson Terhune, author of many interesting dog stories sends his photograph autographed to the collector after a refusal. Rudy Vallee, one of America's best known orchestra directors, answers David's letter which came to him with thousands of other letters and sends his personal photograph with that of his orchestra. Ellis Parker Butler, who is a popular author and an ardent stamp collector writes "Grin and Bear it" on his photo.

Pictures of writers in the Bensman collection include those of Harold Bell Wright, Floyd Gibbons, George Ade, Kathleen Norris, Temple Bailey, Clarence Mulford, Zane Grey and Sir Oliver Lodge.

Jack Dempsey sent his and so did the retired champion, Tunney. Dignified Chauncey M. Depew is there, but did not come direct from the famous New Yorker. Bensman secured this likeness from another collector who donated it.

Reading over the hundreds of names of the autographed photographs it is refreshing to note the simplicity of these people who have in many cases made history. Many times a personal letter accompanies the photograph and most frequently a sample of art.

All Wisconsin state officials are included in this big collection and one of the most interesting pictures is that of the late Senator Robert M. LaFollette holding earnest conversation with his son, Bob Jr.

Other interesting and unusual photographs, which are personally autographed and secured from the celebrity direct are those of Robert L. Ripley, whose "Believe It or Not" feature extends all over the world; Gilda Grey, the

dancer; Jane Addams, founder of Hull House, Chicago; Mary Pickford, movie star; many movie stars personally autographed photos; Calvin Coolidge, Herbert C. Hoover, present president; Eddy Richenbacher, America's best world war aviator; Alfred E. Smith, former governor of New York; Thomas J. Walsh, senator from Montana and native son of Two Rivers; Frank B. Willis, the late Ohio senator; Gene Goldkette, noted orchestra director; George H. Lorimer, editor Saturday Evening Post; Will Rogers, Beverly Hills humorist and what not; and including senators, and other distinguished people over the world.

This unusual collection, the hobby of David A. Bensman has attracted attention in metropolitan newspapers and publications over the United States. Some publications including The Washington Post, Washington, D. C.; The Milwaukee Sentinel; Green Bay Press Gazette; Sheboygan Press; Manitowoc Times and many others are also included.

In years to come this collection no doubt will become the largest in the world but up to this time it can only be said to be one of the largest in the world until it can be found out what other collections of this size are to be found.

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#### ANTIQUE DEALERS' DINNER.

Collectors on both sides of the Atlantic of the "old beautiful" as one famous dealer describes antiques, will be interested in some of the remarks of speakers at the recent annual dinner of Antique Dealers' Association, London.

Sir Robert Witt made the interesting prediction that the time will some when every enterprising firm will regard it as a bounden duty to travel all over the world and to find the customers for the things they have to offer. "You are no longer regarded as a purely luxury business," he continued, "the public has come to realize that art is not a luxury; it is just as much a necessity as education. We are already tending to make into antiques the toys with which our grandmothers played. We are already beginning to find that works of art have in a sense no real date," he added.

Lord Camrose declared that the hobby of collection is probably more powerful today than it has ever been. "The dealer in antiques," he said, "accomplishes more for the good of the world than either he or the rest of the world generally realize. It is a pertinent question to ask how many of what are now esteemed to be some of our finest specimens would have been thrown upon the lumber heap as valueless if it had not been for the discerning eye of some diseriminating dealer.

"The middleman is often looked upon as a parasite, but many of the artistic treasures which we value most today would never have been known to us at all if it had not been for the industry and knowledge of those who called themselves dealers in antiques."

"I think you can claim," added Lord Camrose, "that, by the development of your profession, you are doing much to popularize and stimulate interest in the finer things of life. The man who is induced to take an interest in pictures, china, or other objects of artistic value is adding appreciably to the real joy of life."—Monitor.

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Pearl hunting among mussel shells in Nebraska streams is a little known industry carried on by a few men, women and boys, who make of it an avocation that is at once pleasant and profitable. Nebraska pearls sell on eastern markets for as much as \$50.00 a grain depending on size, shape, color and luster. Another branch of this interesting industry is the sale of the beautiful shells of these inland mussels.

**HE COLLECTS ANYTHING ABOUT NEW YORK—HIS HOBBY EMBRACES  
CIGAR STORE INDIANS AND MEDALS, BADGES AND MONEY**

Diverse and interesting are the hobbies of collectors. I. S. Siedman collects anything of interest pertaining to New York; Indians funeral badges, medals, models, all sorts of things that symbolize in some way the history of the city or are descriptive of some event taking place in New York.

Among these medals of gold, silver or base metals are the medal which celebrated the end of the war with Spain, the medal which bears the profiles of Dewey and Schley; the medal of the old sugar house on Liberty street which was torn down in 1840, the medal of Free Academy which is now known as the College of the City of New York; the medal which was struck off in memory of the officers and crew of the battleship Maine, the medal which celebrated the victory of Heenan over Sayres, and the medal which complimented Stephen H. Douglas at the height of his popularity.

Other interesting medals in the collection are the Crystal Palace medal to exhibitors, the souvenir of the dedication of the Masonic Temple in 1875, the souvenir of the meeting of the Sons of the Revolution, France's Tavern in 1904, the medal given at the American Institute fair for a burglar-proof safe in 1857, the souvenir of the all-but-forgotten circus which used to be across Fourteenth street from old Tammany Hall, the medal struck off to commemorate the laying of the cornerstone of the Eighth Regiment Armory in 1888, the beautiful medal of the St. Patrick's Cathedral centennial in 1908, the medal of the Croton Aqueduct begun in 1835 and completed in 1842 and the medal in honor of the volunteer firemen's torchlight parade in honor of the Prince of Wales' visit, on Oct. 13, 1860.

There are hundreds of these "mileposts of history," as Mr. Seidman calls them. There are medals in commemoration of the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty in October, 1886, the centennial of the evacuation of New York by the British, on November 25, 1783, when Gen. Washington rode into the city; the medal commemorating the laying of the Atlantic cable in 1858, John Bull and Uncle Sam shaking hands with bolts of lightning; the medal presented to the city on the occasion of the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825; the medal which was struck off to commemorate the first appearance of Gen. Tom Thumb at Barnum's Museum at Broadway and Ann street, in December, 1842; the medal which celebrated the crossing of the Atlantic by the Great Eastern in 1860, the souvenir of the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge, in 1885, and the medal which commemorated the unveiling in Central Park of the obelisk presented to the city by the Khedive of Egypt.

"I began years ago to collect objects of interest pertaining to the history of the city." "Mostly I have concentrated on medals and coins and badges. I have advertised extensively to let people know that I am in the market for these historical objects, and I have acquired them in all sorts of odd ways and in all sorts of out of the way places.

"There is not a pawnshop in Greater New York whose windows I do not scrutinize as I pass by. Old medals are very apt to crop up in pawnshop windows. Only last week while strolling by a curiosity shop on the Bowery, I discovered a medal that was struck off by the Mayor's Committee when the Belgian Commission came here during the war. I lacked this particular medal in my set covering the greeting of the various allied commissions. It had been in the pawnshop window for years, but the minute I displayed interest in it the pawnbroker demanded a high price. I finally got it reasonably enough.

"Since the beginning of Mayor Walker's administration the city of New York sends me a copy of every medal that is struck off under city auspices. At various times I get letters from old ladies who happen to be in need of money and who write to tell me that they have finally made up their mind to dispose of some highly prized family heirloom. I attend all the auction sales at the art galleries, and frequently these medals of old New York come to light at such sales. It was in one of the art galleries that I was able to get the medal commemorating the opening of the Erie Canal.

"Whenever medals are struck off by historical societies or commercial bodies or civics clubs I am usually informed of the event in order that I may have opportunity to add one more medal to my collection. These medals have grown more and more beautiful and picturesque. It is indeed interesting to trace the refinement of art up through the years as it is exemplified in the designs and workmanship on these medals. Recent examples of New York medals are those for the opening of the Paramount, the Athletic Club, the New York Life Insurance Buildings. The National City Bank struck off a medal two years ago and illustrated it with a picture of old Wall Street.

"In my collection are also some of the old silk and cloth badges that were worn at the funerals of President Lincoln and Gen. Grant, buttons that were worn in the coat lapels in Washington's time, and other such souvenirs coming up through the decades of the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It seems that the supply of New York medals is pretty well exhausted. Fewer and fewer come to light every year.

#### BROOKING CHISELS TUSK FROM STONE

One of the richest fossil bone beds in Nebraska is believed to have been discovered on the Edward Gleason farm seven miles southeast of Franklin, where Mr. Gleason sunk a well about ten days ago. The drill struck some hard objects in its path toward water, and A. M. Brooking of Hastings was notified that bits of drillings brought to the surface indicated bone or ivory. The curator of Hastings' rapidly growing museum went to the site and found a very large mastodon tusk imbedded under twelve feet of stone.

With the aid of Wayne Woodworth of Hastings and Leslie Goodberry of Franklin, and with some specially made tools procured for the job from the nearest blacksmith, Mr. Brooking was able to chisel out the tusk which went back into the stone five feet.

Some of the ivory that had been broken by the drill was almost as well preserved as though it had been only freshly buried, and Mr. Brooking considers it one of his most prized museum exhibits.

In chiselling out the tusk, which is believed to be a tetra beledon, or four-tusker type, Mr. Brooking found a great number of bones which he identified as early rhinoceros. If the tusk should prove to be the tetra beledon, it will be the first time in the history of archaeological research in this state that such an animal's bones have been found so far south. The tusk lay about 26 feet below the level of the surrounding country.—Tribune.

#### \$75,000 FOR ARMOUR

A collection of arms and armour sold for \$75,000, forty items realizing more than \$500 each. A pair of 17th century flintlock pistols drew as much as \$4,850, a fine specimen of brigandine (armour of iron rings or plates) \$3,900, and a wheel-lock arquebus (an early type of portable gun) \$3,450. A Gothic breast-plate cost \$2,000 and an ancient saddle brought \$1,850.

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### RARE BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES IN IOWA COLLECTION

What is said to be one of the best collections in existence of birds and butterflies common to this section of the country is to be found at Macedonia, Ia. It was made by the late Dr. Guido Louis Stempel. Dr. Stempel collected and mounted most of the specimens himself. It took him more than a quarter of a century, since he did most of his work at night, his days being occupied in his profession as a physician. The collection includes nearly five hundred birds, ranging from a humming bird an inch and a half long to a whooping crane which stands five feet high. It contains also three thousand butterflies and many smaller animals.

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### OLD SKELETON FOUND; IS 1,500 YEARS OLD

Binghamton, N. Y.—Archaeologists from the Rochester Museum of Art and Science have begun extensive excavations on the farm of Roger P. Clark of Willow Point, near here, following the discovery of a 1,500-year-old skeleton, believed to be that of an Indian of the third Algonkian period.

In addition to the skeleton, a large pot of impressed designs and fragments of other crockery were unearthed leading to the belief that further excavation might reveal relics ranking with the most important archaeological finds in the state.

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### EASY FINDING LIST OF COINS

A pamphlet has recently been issued by William F. Dunham of Los Angeles, Cal., a member of the A. N. A. and the California Coin Club, entitled "Easy Finding List, Canadian and United States, U. S. Colonial and Territorial Coins, Hard Times Tokens, Encased U. S. Postage Stamps." The purpose of the list is to enable one to determine at a glance the approximate value of any of the coins included in the title, in one of more grades of preservation.—Numismatist.

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### PEACE PIPE IS NIOBRARA GIFT TO AIR TOUR CHIEF

Niobrara, Neb.—An Indian peace pipe was presented today to Lieutenant E. H. Beebe flight commander of the second all-Nebraska air tour, together with the charge that he smoke it with the big chiefs of other Nebraska towns on the tour itinerary, as a gesture of friendship from Niobrara. The pipe, with big bowl of reddish pipestone and a huge wooden stem, was presented to him by H. A. Rinder, Niobrara banker.

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A goose quill pen and an ink well used in making out census returns in 1850, were used by Mrs. Ella M. Long, census enumerator of Woodbine, Ga., in making out her report for 1930.

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"LOVE 'EM and LEAVE 'EM." If you lose interest in any line of coins remember the little fellows, "SELL 'EM, and GIVE 'EM a chance.—"Sparks."

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The first book ever printed was "The Book of Psalms," by Faust and Schoeffer, A. D. 1457. It was printed on one side only.

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The English sovereign was first coined in 1626. Previous to that the noble, value fifteen shillings was the most valuable British coin.

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Glass mirrors, it is claimed, were first known in A. D. 23, but the art of making them was lost and not regained till A. D. 1300.

## RECENT HISTORICAL SOUVENIRS

Collectors all over the U. S. have been anxious to learn whether any mail was carried on the Southern Cross. As far as is known there was none carried from Ireland, but in the stage of the flight between Newfoundland and New York five pieces of mail were carried and these are postmarked "Harbour Grace, June 26, 1930, Newfld." The postmaster inscribed each one "Via airmail—Southern Cross—Harbor Grace, June 26, 1930." It is the nearest thing that the collector can get to commemorate the wonderful hop of this veteran plane which has now circled the globe. Four of the covers were sold at \$100.00 and the last copy at \$500.

Roger Q. Williams who flew from Maine to Rome and who recently hopped the 1400 miles from New York to Bermuda and back again in one day, carried a small bag of letters and as mentioned in the newspapers dropped the bag on the golf course at Hamilton. There actually were only 10 pieces stamped and postmarked—the newspapers and Mayor Walker's letter did not have stamps. In the lot were 10 postcards which are postmarked Westbury, N. Y., June 28, 7 p. m. The flight was on June 29, but the postoffice is not open on Sunday. Bermuda did not postmark because the flight was declared unofficial, but as a guarantee that the mail was carried Mr. Williams autographed the postals. The owner values the cards at \$100.00 each. The same dealer is expecting 5 letters to be carried by La Coste from Paris to U. S.—Roessler News.

## NEBRASKAN IN POSSESSION COLONIAL AMERICAN RELIC.

A relic of colonial America—a "flip mug"—is a possession of F. P. Wilson, who lives southwest of Falls City, Neb. The Pewter mug, handed down from father to son, is the center of a story that it was brought to America with the pilgrims in the 17th century. It is called a "flip mug" because a person must first flip back with his thumb the trigger on the lid in order to receive the mug's contents. Wilson's ancestors, among the first immigrants to New England, brought the mug along with them, and it was later given to Wilson.

Karl L. Spence, Nebraska News, at Crawford, recently spent a few days with relatives at Bladen. He took time to follow his hobby of collecting Indian relics. Mr. Spence has a fine Indian collection in the Hastings museum, most of which was gathered near Franklin during his residence at that place.

## FOSSIL SPECIMENS FOR BOONE COUNTY MUSEUM

Albion, Neb.—Boone county's museum collection at the courthouse has been enriched by several fossil specimens from the South Dakota Bad Lands by Gay Bump of Scenic, S. D. Bump spent his boyhood days here. The well preserved specimens of tooth and vertebra from the prehistoric titan-otherium are included. The single tooth is as large as the full gum of a human being.

The lower jaw of a three-toed horse, two teeth from the upper jaw of a small rhinoceros, an oreodon skull and teeth and parts of two small fish are included.

James Bump, son of Gay Bump, recently made a name for himself when as a member of a geological party he assisted in the discovery of a fossilized mother oreodon with unborn twins.

Plans are under way for the construction of a house entirely of elk antlers in Yellowstone park. It is estimated that several thousand pairs will be required to complete the structure, which will be six by eight feet and seven feet high.

## A CEREMONIAL FLINT KNIFE

While plowing corn last summer up on Squaw creek above White Cloud, Mr. James Roland unearthed another Quiviran ceremonial knife. It was made of the pink flint from the quarry near Seneca, Missouri, where the Skidi of Quivira and Harahey obtained the flint out of which they made their symbolic arrow points and sacred artifacts.

This long knife was too fragile to have been used only on special occasions. It is ten inches long, an inch and a half wide, and three-eighths of an inch thick. It has a stem and notches, and shows that it was inserted into a handle of bone.

This is the third long knife unearthed in Doniphan county, Kansas. The other two are about two inches longer than this one from Squaw creek.

We know now that the Skidi were not Caddoan stock. They were Tallegwi stock from Ohio. Their ancestors built the stone graves and mounds in Quivira and Harahey. From what we have been able to learn this Wolf band of the Caddoan family were adopted some time about 1400 A. D. About 1776 they were made subjects of the Republican tribe of the historic Pawnees, who built their first village on the northwest branch of Kansas river in 1796, and gave the river its present name.

It was from this sun worshiping band of stone grave builders that the Omahas and Pawnees borrowed the sacred Hako ceremony.

Like their ancient Briton and Scandinavian ancestors they sacrificed human beings to the morning star, which is always obscured by the rising sun and a new day.

"As late as 985 Earl Hakon in Norway is credited with having given his young son as an offering to Thorgerd, when he prayed to her for victory over the vikings of Jomsborg."

Our old Pagan ancestors of Celtic and Nordic stock used captives for sacrificial offerings when they were to be had, when none were available sons and daughters were used.

The writer has made a new handle for this fine, old ceremonial knife out of a fossilized leg bone of a buffalo which was unearthed not far from where the knife was found. The head of this ancient buffalo was presented to the writer by the late George Nuzum, who unearthed it while digging a ditch.—Mark E. Zimmerman.

There are yet opportunities for a collector who has some time to spare and does not fail to explore the shelves of the secondhand booksellers in small country towns to add to his treasures, though year by year it must be confessed that their chance of finding treasure-trove is less and less. Possibly this is the reason why so many are concentrating on the interesting sport of "spotting" modern authors whose first editions of early works will in a few years' time most probably bring a large return for the money invested. The collector of real keenness should never neglect an opportunity of attending a sale in the country, at any old-fashioned house, where books, autographs and antiques are included. Frequently real finds are made by the intelligent collector, and picked up at astonishingly low prices.—Monitor.

The first section of the William P. Brown collection, coins, medals, tokens, paper money and a few rare U. S. stamps will be held by the Elder Coin & Curio Corporation, 8 West 37th St., New York on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th. Catalogs on request.

**RELICS A FAMILY HOBBY.**

A log cabin built in 1850 by a man who on week days was a shoe-cobbler and on Sundays a Methodist minister is the nucleus of the collection of early Iowa relics, antiques and curios which is the hobby of the R. B. Morgan family of Oskaloosa, Ia. The quest for early American relics has taken Mr. Morgan, chief clerk in an Oskaloosa railway office, and his wife and two daughters, Sarah and Pearl, into every state in the union.

The Morgans brought the log cabin from a farm near Tracy, Ia., and have furnished it in the style of the period in which it was built. It was originally erected by J. F. Rouze, who came to Iowa in 1849. The cabin was moved to the Morgan property by razing it, marking the logs, trucking them to the new location, and reassembling them.

Inside the cabin are low four-poster rope beds of maple and cherry with feather ticks and hand woven coverlets and a walnut trundle bed which slides under the larger bed. In the kitchen is a six-legged "fall leaf" table and a pestle and mortar for grinding corn.

Foot warmers, candle molds, a brass bed warmer, a pine cradle from Provincetown, Mass., a spinning wheel, a flax wheel and reel and a walnut dough tray carry out the pioneer atmosphere.

The Morgan family's collection of rocks, Mr. Morgan's collection of rare old stamps, and specimens of Iowa wild life mounted by Miss Pearl Morgan are housed in a brick cottage in the yard of the family residence. Costumes showing fashions of the last hundred years are displayed in the cottage as is a collection of Staffordshire china.

A large number of old books and newspapers also are on exhibit in the cottage. A religious treatise, "The Man of Sin," is dated 1677 and a geographical magazine bears the date 1794.—Des Moines Tribune-Capital.

**LIBRARIAN FINDS FORGOTTEN BOOKS OF EARLY 1800'S.**

A regular mine of books, some dating back as far as 1753, and including

The old McGuffey primary reader is small and is illustrated with pictures graphy edited before 1820, and books whose pages were so yellowed and torn by years of hard use that only a few lines here and there were readable, was found recently by Miss Nesbit, the librarian at Doane college, Crete, Neb., when hunting through dust covered books in a store room.

The old McGuffey primary reader is small and is illustrated with pictures of men in knee breeches and women in dresses of the period of 1820.

The old geography refers to New York as a city of ninety-three thousand people—New York has 23 churches, a magnificent city hall, a spacious prison, four markets and a college.—Omaha World-Herald.

**TABLE IS INDIAN RELIC**

When General Sullivan's force moved northward through Seneca county, New York, 150 years ago, following closely the east shores of Seneca Lake, he found it necessary to construct bridges in order to invade the Indian territory.

Today there is in the home of Joseph Hutchinson at Geneva, N. Y., a sturdy black walnut tree table which was cut from one of the logs forming a bridge built by Sullivan across a ravine on what is now the Teall brothers' farm, near Fayette, Seneca county. The roughly hewn logs forming the bridge became buried under ground but were brought to light three years ago when a new highway was built. They were found to be in good condition and Hutchinson same into possession of half of one.—N. Y. Tribune.

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"Little Women," 2 vols., 1868-9. Bryant's "Poems," 1821. "The White Footed Deer," (Paper covers), 1844. Bryant's (Booklet undated). "Popular Considerations on Homeopathia," "Messer Marco Polo," 1921. "The Story of a Bad Boy," 1870. "Alice in Wonderland," 1865, also 1866. "Precaution," 2 vols., 1820. "The Spy," 2 vols., 1821. "The Pilot," 2 vols., 1823. "The Pioneers," 1823. "The Last of the Mohicans," 2 vols., 1826. "The Prairie," 2 vols., 1827. "The Deer-slayer," 2 vols., 1841. "The Pathfinder," 2 vols., 1840. "Maggie, a Girl of the Streets," (Undated. Yellow paper covers.) "The Red Badge of Courage," 1895. "Sister Carrie," 1900. Emerson's "Essays," 1841. "Warwick Woodlands," 1845. "The Man Without a Country," (paper covers) 1865. "Uncle Remus," 1881. "The Lost Galleon," 1867. "The Luck of Roaring Camp," 1870. "The Pliocene Skull," (paper covers) 1871. "Mliss" (paper covers) 1873. "Fan-shawe: A Tale," 1828. "Peter Parley's Universal History," 2 vols., 1837. "Twice Told Tales," 1839. "The Gentle Boy," 1839. "Grandfather's Chair," 1841. "The Scarlet Letter," 1850. "Cabbages and Kings," 1904. "Salmagundi," (20 booklets or two vols.) 1807-8. "Knickerbocker's New York," 2 vols., 1809. "The Sketch Book," (7 booklets or 2 vols.) 1819-20. "The Biglow Papers," 1848. Lowell's "Commemoration Ode," 1865. "Typee," 1846. "Omoo," 1847. "Moby Dick," 1851. "Ramona," 1884. "Outre Mer," No. 1 1833, No. 2, 1834. Longfellow's "Ballads," 1842. "Evangeline," 1847. "Hiawatha," 1855. "Parnassus on Wheels," 1917. "McTeague," 1899. "Tamerlane and Other Poems," (paper covered pamphlet), 1827. "Al-Aaraaf," 1829. Poe's "Poems," 1831, (Marked "Second Edition.") "Tales of the Grotesque," 2 vols., 1840. "The Prose Romances of E. A. Poe, No. 1," (booklet), 1843. "The Raven," 1845. Poe's "Tales," 1845. "Eureka," 1848. "The Old Swimmers' Hole and Leven More Poems," (paper covers), 1883. "The Torrent," 1896. "Children of the Night," 1897. "Captain Craig," 1902. "The Lady or the Tiger," (paper covers), 1884. "Uncle Tom's Cabin," 2 vols., 1852. "Gentleman from Indiana," 1899. "Mons Beaucaire," 1900. "The Green Mountain Boys," 2 vols., 1839. "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers," 1849. "Walden," 1854. "The Jumping Frog," 1867. "Innocents Abroad," 1869. "Tom Sawyer," 1876. "Huck Finn," 1885. "Ben Hur," 1880. "Franklin Evans or the Inebriate," (booklet), 1842. "Leaves of Grass," 1855. "Moll Pitcher," 1832. "Snow Bound," 1866. "The Virginian," 1902. "Nick of the Woods," 1837. "The Federalist," 1788. "The Deserted Village," 1771. "The Vicar of Wakefield," 1768, also 1772. "Prince of Abyssinia," 1759. "Rasselas," 1768. "Pamela," 1741, also 1744. "Pilgrim's Progress," 1678, 1681 or 1684. "Marian Coffin," 1834. "Wieland," 1798. "Arthur Mervyn," 1799. "Edgar Huntley," 1799. "Ormond," 1799. "Jane Talbot," 1801. "Clara Howard," 1801. "The Emigrants," 3 vols., 1793. "The Crisis," by Steele, 1725. "John Bull and Brother Jonathan," 1812. "Two Years Before the Mast," 1840, etc., etc.

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Quarter dollar, bust type .....	.50
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The above 20 lots, special for .....	\$21.50

Large cent, Flying-Eagle cent, copper-nickel cent, 2-cent piece, 3 cents nickel, 3 cents silver, half dime, old nickel, Civil war cent and hard times token—set of 10 coins, special for .....

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Lindbergh and Bremen flyers' medals, half dollar size, bright, showy medals, the two .....

California gold,  $\frac{1}{4}$  size, round .....

California gold,  $\frac{1}{4}$  size, octagon .....

California gold,  $\frac{1}{2}$  size, round .....

California gold,  $\frac{1}{2}$  size, octagon .....

Above set of 4 coins, special for .....

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All the above gold coins are fine to uncirculated.	

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English old store cards dated before 1800, 25 cents each or 5, all different, for .....	1.00
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Abyssinia, dime size silver coin .....	.15
German New Guinea, 1 Pfennig, copper, bright, uncirculated, obsolete coin .....	.15
Panama Pill (a small thick silver coin), so called on account of its shape, very scarce .....	.25

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Rome, Julian II, A. D. 361-363 .....	12.50
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Byzantium, Zeus, A. D. 474-491 (cup shaped), with portrait of Christ ..	6.50
Byzantium, Anastasius I, A. D. 491-518 .....	7.50
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Rome, Denarii, Gordianus Pius, A. D. 238-244 .....	.50
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The above seven coins special for .....	3.00
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Or 1 for .....	.35

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German, pre-war 1000 mark note .....	.15
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